

Ministry's £20m gamble

Although the Ministry of Defence was offered a fixed price contract for the Sea Eagle missile it chose a "rise or fall" target price contract, which could involve it paying £20m more than necessary, British Aerospace told a House of Commons select committee.

Thatcher to pay Sahara bills

Mrs Margaret Thatcher will personally pay all outstanding bills for last month's rescue of her son, Mark, from the Sahara Desert, she said. British taxpayers would not be liable. Algeria met most of the cost.

Peking doubts on Deng's future

Mystery surrounds the whereabouts of China's Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping, who has not been seen in public for more than five weeks. One version current in Peking is that Mr Deng has been forced to step down because of resistance to his plans for a bureaucracy purge.

By-pass aid for 220 towns

About 220 towns and villages will benefit from new by-passes in the next five years, according to a government White Paper, which adds eight by-passes to the building programme already announced.

Welsh water protest

Welsh nationalists disrupted a Commons committee meeting to protest about high water charges and the export of Welsh water to England. The protest came as CBI officials from Wales were giving evidence to the Welsh Affairs Committee. The demonstrators were removed by police.

Town mourns oil rig deaths

The town of St John's, Newfoundland, is mourning the deaths of 34 oil rig workers and has joined in mourning criticism of safety standards. Canada and Newfoundland have each set up an inquiry into the disaster.

Paris names 44 state firm heads

The French Cabinet has named 44 people to head state industries, banks and finance groups under the Socialist Government's nationalization plans. Three women are among the appointments which reflect only moderate left-wing opinion.

Loan rates up

American banks raised their prime rates as Mr William Miller, the Belgian Prime Minister, told President Reagan of fears in Europe that high US interest rates would prevent a modest economic recovery.

Schoolboy hero

Aruna Ranasinghe, an 18-year-old schoolboy, has the honour of being the first day of their inaugural Test match against England. He scored 54 in a total of 183 for eight.

TROUBLED ALLIES

In the second of a series of articles on the state of the Atlantic Alliance, Maurice Courde de Murville, the former French Prime Minister, says that NATO is irreplaceable, but that Europeans must not shirk their own defence responsibilities.

World Cup form guide

A guide to the performances and records of the 24 qualifying countries in the World Cup Finals which begin in Spain on June 23 appears in *The Times* today.

Leader page 13
Letters: On El Salvador, from Mrs Katharine Thwaites; Cairo's Old City, from Sir Harold Beeley and others.
Features: page 12
Lucy Hodge warns of the dangers lurking in secret school records; Ronald Butt on how feminism could harm the SDP.
Obituary: page 14
Lee Strasberg, Thelma Houston, Barbara Leigh

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Polish troops hold 3,500 in martial law raids

Warsaw, Feb 17.—Polish security forces arrested 3,500 people during the past 48 hours in nationwide raids to check on compliance with martial law, Polish radio said today. The radio, monitored in Vienna, said nearly 145,000 people were found to have infringed martial law regulations.

Police officials at the European security review conference in Madrid last week said that their most recent figures showed some 4,000 people were being detained. The Polish government had initially indicated that up to 5,500 people were held after the December 13 imposition of martial law.

In its broadcast today, the radio said thousands of militia forces and volunteer reserves had checked some 51,000 enterprises and factories as well as 30,000 cars during the past two days.

The radio said 99,000 people were asked to present their identity cards and given a warning while another 29,000 were "reminded of their duties". Some 7,000 people were given fines totalling 2.3 million zlotys (about £16,000) and 4,000 were referred to "misdemeanour courts".

Police also checked 3,500 known criminal hawks, the radio said, adding that the raids were also aimed against disturbers of general public security.

Disturbances last weekend in the western city of Poznan brought accusations by Poland's official press that opponents of martial law were planning a campaign of conspiracy, terror and revenge.

The armed forces newspaper *Zolniers Wolnosci* said yesterday that "hostile, anti-socialist forces" were trying to organize illegal actions and build up a resistance front.

In Warsaw, Mr Jan Kulaj, leader of the now suspended Rural Solidarity trade union, has had his first private meeting with a Roman Catholic church representative since being detained after the imposition of martial law more than two months ago.

A priest from a Warsaw seminary celebrated Mass last Sunday for Mr Kulaj, aged 24, in his room at a villa near the capital, church sources said today. They said Mr Kulaj was in good health and his conditions of detention were good.

Yesterday a priest visited Mr Lech Walesa, the Solidarity leader who was detained under similar conditions as Mr Kulaj. He was found in good health and spirits, the sources said.

The priest, Father Henryk Jankowski, who had close associations with Solidarity, travelled from Cracow to Mr Walesa's home town, to discuss the baptism of the union leader's daughter. The ceremony is expected to take place next month.

Mr Stanislaw Dlugosz, deputy chairman of the State Planning Commission, said today that Western sanctions against Poland would make it more difficult for Warsaw to meet its debts to the West.—Reuters.

Washington: The State Department said today that if reports of mass arrests in Poland were true, it would find this latest example of increased repression to be deeply upsetting (Moshin AA writes).

A State Department spokesman said the department was checking the Polish report.

If true, the report would remove all questions concerning the Warsaw Government's true intentions in so far as the continued violation of its populace's internationally recognized human rights is concerned.

Mr Boom: West Germany today stepped up pressure on the Soviet Union over Poland by restricting high level political contacts and suspending negotiations on scientific and shipping agreements (Patricia Clough writes).

Becker, the Government's spokesman, said the measures were "political signals" which had been agreed with West Germany's NATO partners. They would remain in force until the situation in Poland improved. Last week Bonn tightened up restrictions on the movements of Soviet diplomats in West Germany.

Two months of martial law, page 6

Troubled allies, page 12

Cost of jobless rises to £96 a week each

By Frances Williams

Ministers have suppressed publication of official estimates which show that the cost to the Government of each person unemployed is now £5,000 a year—or £96 a week—in social security benefits and lost tax revenues.

This estimate, prepared by Treasury and Employment Department officials, is substantially higher than previous calculations. Late last year the government-funded Manpower Services Commission put the cost of each additional jobless person at nearly £4,400 a year, while the independent Institute for Fiscal Studies estimated the average cost at £4,500 per person.

The latest figures were prepared for an article which was to have been updated a report on the cost of unemployment published in the February 1981 issue of the Treasury's *Economic Progress Report*. This said that every additional 100,000 registered jobless cost the Exchequer £340m or £3,400 per person in 1980-81.

The unpublished paper says the cost could now be £500m in 1981-82 for each 100,000 extra unemployed, a jump of nearly 50 per cent.

The draft paper went to the Prime Minister's office and to ministers in the Treasury and the Department of Employment, who decided against publication.

The new estimates showing the enormous costs of unemployment are bound to be

Now NUR guards threaten strike

By David Felton
Labour Reporter

The crisis on the railways showed no signs of abating last night as British Rail and the footplatemen's union remained deadlocked over acceptance of the McCarthy committee's report and militant guards threatened disruption of services tomorrow in London and the south east.

About 2,000 guards, who are members of the National Union of Railwaymen at 20 depots, could be involved in the 24-hour unofficial walkout which will affect commuter and some inter-city services.

The strike was called at a secret meeting at London Bridge, of a steering committee of militant NUR shop stewards who are unhappy at their union's acceptance of the flexible rostering, which is at the centre of the current dispute with Aslef.

Frantic attempts have been made to persuade the guards not to strike and NUR officials have been assisted by local BR managers in explaining the new rosters to workers. BR said last night that once guards had seen the rosters militancy was declining.

Stations which could be affected tomorrow include King's Cross, Paddington, St Pancras, Victoria, Charing Cross, Epsom, Hford, Stratford, Acton and Brighton.

The three rail unions, British Rail officials and Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, spent most of yesterday at the offices of the Advisory, Conciliation and Arbitration Service as BR sought a firm commitment from the train drivers' union on flexible rostering.

Mr Raymond Buckton, general secretary of the Associated Society of Locomotive Engineers and Firemen, said as he arrived at the start of the talks that his union had accepted the McCarthy report in full and expected BR to do the same.

Mr Pat Lowry, chairman of Aslef, was attempting to find common ground between BR and Aslef on a crucial paragraph in the report on movement away from the guaranteed eight-hour day.

The British Railways Board remains solid after the McCarthy report. None of the board has argued in favour of paying something for nothing as Sir Peter Parker, chairman of BR, put it last week (Michael Baily writes).

There is resentment at what is seen as a biased report, but a disinclination to throw it out in the hope that it may contain the seed of a settlement.

The crunch point will come in a month's time when the Rail Staff National Tribunal will arbitrate, under Lord McCarthy's chairmanship, on the issue of flexible rostering. The preliminary stages yield no result.

The board fears that if it pays the 3 per cent before any commitment from Aslef flexible rostering will remain totally rejected by the union.

Mr John Biffen, Secretary of State for Trade, last night delivered his own version of the economic success achieved by the Prime Minister since 1979.

Mr Biffen, the Cabinet's robust counter-balance to the Chancellor, said the Chancellor faced a formidable task with his March 9 Budget. He would have to take account of both the unprecedented recession and the prospects for business recovery, while rejecting the siren song of substantially increased expenditure.

In what is bound to be taken as a sideswipe against Mr Pym's February 1 analysis, he said: "This is not the time for facile optimism, but equally it is time for introspective gloom."

Exports had risen from about a quarter of domestic product a decade ago to around 30 per cent in 1979, the volume of export deliveries had increased last year in spite of the strong pound, and exports represented a broad base of products, reflecting the country's commercial and industrial capability.

Mr Biffen commented in his speech at the Conservative London headquarters: "We do not have to see ourselves through a glass darkly; and the least we can do is to perceive that Britain can trade, fearing none in straight-forward competition."

The minister denied that the "misleading statistic" of three million unemployed was the result of the Government's "dogmatic" assault on public spending. The working population had increased by 700,000 in the four years to 1980, the oil production which had

helped to balance the nation's books was capital rather than labour intensive, and the "padded payrolls" of manufacturing industry had made the country vulnerable to the sharp impact of international recession.

Yet there had been parallel developments which could signal better times ahead, and Mr Biffen stressed that his party should be both pugnacious and uncompromising in proclaiming the good news.

"The number of strikes are down, pay settlements are more realistic, unit costs have fallen, inflation has moderated," he said.

The irony of Mr Biffen's speech, and its natural contrast with Mr Pym's remarks, is that he was himself subjected to party criticism when he forecast "three years of unparalleled austerity" in April 1980.

The result is that, while it costs about 3p for each form to be produced, it costs £1 to check it, correct it and process it. But in the brave new world of simplified forms, all that is to change. Form users are to be consulted in future. Civil servants are to be trained in how to use simple language on forms and to question whether they are needed at all.

The review of 93 forms that preceded the White Paper has resulted in 50 being redesigned, as well as 26 being withdrawn. The Government thinks it will save £300,000 a year and that five million fewer forms will be sent out.

Leading article, page 13

The Sioux have a point of order



Eugene Steinhauer, a Canadian Indian, lobbying Parliament to press for a better deal for his people. The Commons were debating the Canada Bill, which will end Westminster's power to legislate for Canada. Report, page 6.

Nkomo dismissed by Mugabe

From Stephen Taylor, Salisbury, Feb 17

Mr Joshua Nkomo, known to his supporters as "Father Zimbabwe" and partner in the country's coalition Government, was dismissed today by Mr Robert Mugabe, the Prime Minister, for allegedly plotting to overthrow the ruling Zanu (PF) Party.

Mr Mugabe told a stunned press conference that Mr Nkomo, two other Cabinet ministers and a Deputy minister who are members of his Patriotic Front (PF) were implicated in a plot to overthrow the Government.

The move left serious doubts about the principle of national unity which Mr Mugabe and other government leaders have adopted since independence. Although the Prime Minister

stopped short of excluding the Patriotic Front entirely from the Government it seems unlikely that the alliance that has held together since almost two years will survive.

Those dismissed are three of the four Patriotic Front ministers in the Cabinet, including Mr Josiah Chinamano, the party's deputy leader, and one of three Deputy ministers.

Mr Mugabe said that the remaining PF members of the Government, including Mr Daniel Nqwanja, the other minister, had asked for time to consult the party before deciding whether they would remain.

With the PF almost certain to withdraw from government the authorities face widespread disaffection in the Matabeleland region, including

Buawayo which is the focal point of Mr Nkomo's political support.

One of Mr Nkomo's leading aides said that Zanu (PF) had used the events of the past two weeks to orchestrate a campaign to discredit Mr Nkomo and his party because he had not accepted the principle of merging with the ruling party as a prelude to a one-party state.

The press conference was also used to disclose a long-awaited reshuffle which brings back into the Cabinet as Minister of Home Affairs Dr Herbert Ushewokunze, the controversial former Minister of Health, who was dismissed last October.

Glee over crisis, page 6

Leading article, page 13

Biffen takes a sideswipe at Pym on 'introspective gloom'

By Anthony Bevis, Political Correspondent

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Swathing in luxury at feet of Baba

From Trevor Fishlock
Bombay, Feb 17

The scruffy man paused to stare, but the security wallahs shooed him off with the Bombay vernacular for "gitar tovit". The last thing you want when a living saint is about to arrive is some tatty citizen cluttering the pavement.

The saint was half an hour late, a minor arrogance which served to heighten the anticipation of the thousands or so waiting for him under the chandeliers of the hotel ballroom. But at last a car drew up, spilling the saint's aides like shelled peas. Then the saint's midnight blue Lincoln Continental berthed alongside and willing hands reached in to pull him out as lenses zoomed. "Baba is coming, Baba is coming" went the urgent whisper into the hall.

Swami Multananda, saint and realized being, as opposed to ordinary being, wore a simple short robe of pink silk from which protruded dainty legs. He had an incipient beard, glasses and a smile showing excellent teeth. At 73, he could have passed for 63.

Through a rippling blizen of camera flash and the thunder of a standing ovation, he ascended the podium and tucked his heels into his groin.

His adoring followers, shaven-headed Westerners in tangerine togas, sat at his feet with the shiny eager faces of children. The swami kicked off with community chanting the equivalent of Cardiff Arms Park's "Bread of Heaven" and launched into his patter. It was about knowing your own mind, your inner self, in order to know "the real truth".

To the objective listener it sounded like banality piled on triteness, japping to the horizon of scholastic boredom; but plainly the objective was listening, not hearing.

In the fifteenth minute I counted three people asleep including Scoop (such was the name on his chest tag), who was one of the American press corps. He was from San Francisco and wore a pink-knitted cap.

Swami, a saint according to his publicity material and a leading yoga teacher, is one of the stars of the Seventh International Transpersonal Conference here. The Dalai Lama was to have been one of the main attractions, but was felled by illness.

The conference was instructed to concentrate on His Holiness and beam healing wishes towards him by uttering the sound "ommmmm" like the main register of an organ. If you ask what transpersonal means, you might get the answer Louis Armstrong gave to a lady who asked him to define jazz: "If you have to ask you will never know."

Nature's enough. The International Transpersonal Association is rooted in California, Western homeland of the meaningful experience. For years Westerners have made

Continued on back page, col 5

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Union plans fight to protect university jobs

By Diana Geddes, Education Correspondent

The Association of University Teachers will strongly resist proposals by the Committee of Vice-Chancellors and Principals to weaken academic staff's tenure arrangements. Mr Lawrence Sapper, the association's general secretary said yesterday.

It was disgraceful that none of the proposals had been discussed with the association before being sent to universities, he said. The association intended to take up the matter with the vice-chancellors today.

Under the proposals, the probationary period, normally three years, on initial appointments to an academic post would be followed by a further fixed-term appointment for five years. Only those who could be deemed eligible for consideration for tenure or employment until retiring age.

It is also proposed that conditions under which a university might legitimately dismiss an academic from a tenure post should be extended to include "redundancy or compelling reasons of financial exigency", provided the university made every reasonable effort to find alternative employment and provided the post in question was not refilled for a defined period.

In a letter sent to universities with details of the proposals as Tuesday, the vice-chancellors' committee says the universities' financial crisis had made particularly acute the question of whether traditional employment arrangements for academic staff were still appropriate.

"It is not easy to defend a structure which may bind a university to a legal commitment to continue to employ a staff member to retirement no matter how circumstances change", the committee says.

It said its first aim was "to continue to provide as secure and rewarding a career for university staff as may be found in other occupations financed from public funds."

"It is recognized, nevertheless, that the universities cannot automatically be immune from cuts in public expenditure, nor can they be seen to provide greater security for their employees than is afforded in the rest of the public service except to the extent that their duties as scholars to be free to study, teach and publish so require."

The committee says each university will decide whether to change its charter and statutes in accordance with the proposals. The charges would apply only to new contracts.

Dr Edward Parkes, chairman of the University Grants Committee, told the Commons Public Accounts Committee earlier this month that the UGC was awaiting the vice-chancellors' suggestions before putting forward its own proposals.

However, he went on to say: "One must protect the individual academic of unorthodox views, which may be very valuable, while at the same time making it possible for managerial and financial reasons to close down certain areas of a university that can no longer be afforded."

"One must protect the individual who disagrees with Einstein, but not the department of science with perhaps 20 staff which the institution can no longer afford."

Dr Sapper said yesterday that his association was not so concerned about the individual who disagreed with Einstein, but was worried about the young lecturer who wanted to challenge his head of department or vice-chancellor. "He will be doing out like light if the vice-chancellors' proposals are accepted", he said.



Like father: Mr Hilary Benn, aged 28, the son of Mr Wedgwood Benn, was a front-runner at a meeting of Ealing, North, Constituency Labour Party last night to select a prospective candidate to fight the Conservative-held marginal seat at the next general election.



Pundits tip cool and confident Haughey

From Richard Ford, Dublin

IRISH ELECTION

The Irish Republic's 2.2 million voters go to the polls today with rival sets of economic statistics echoing in their ears. The climax to the three week general election campaign was a courteous television debate between Dr Garret FitzGerald and his rival, Mr Charles Haughey. The pundits said Mr Haughey gave a better performance and his Fianna Fail party is now tipped to win.

For 90 minutes they discussed various issues without losing their tempers, although passions were clearly raised on the matter of contraception and of constitutional initiative of Dr FitzGerald, the Prime Minister, aimed at making the republic a more pluralistic society.

Dr FitzGerald began nervously while Mr Haughey was cool and confident, apparently unshaken by the Prime Minister's tactic of attacking his record with the nation's finances. The most controversial charge raised by Dr FitzGerald was his claim that five weeks before Mr Haughey called a general election last year, the Central Bank had refused a request for £350m.

Mr Haughey showed no surprise and later criticized Dr FitzGerald for what he called a serious breach of responsibility using "what he purports to be working Cabinet documents and other communications of the highest degree of confidentiality in a last minute attempt to gain an electoral advantage".

Mr Haughey probably appealed more to the man in the street, speaking of the need for cutting inflation, providing more jobs and a stable government, while Dr FitzGerald's professional air may have cost him some votes.

He looked pale and tired after the hectic campaign and the television cameras were more flattering to Mr Haughey, who was assured, piggybacking the broad brush approach.

More pupils continue studies

By Our Education Correspondent

Science, but have not yet been published.

The proportion of young people going into higher education is likely to fall back sharply again next autumn, however, when the cuts begin to bite for the first time in the public sector, which is increasing its intake of students and has more than made up for the reduction in university places.

London University decided yesterday to reverse a 1977 decision to phase out its external degrees, which at their peak in 1970 attracted more than 8,000 new registrations from United Kingdom students and about 3,000 from overseas students.

The university's external council agreed that it should seek to increase, on a self-financing basis, its external degree provision for home-based United Kingdom students, without duplicating Open University courses, and to allow overseas students to

register once again for external degrees.

Professor Randolph Quirk, vice-chancellor of London, said that he had received a letter from Sir James Hamilton, permanent secretary at the Department of Education and Science, applauding "any arrangement which enhances the opportunities of adults to obtain qualifications or make up for educational chances lost earlier and which encourages self-help and initiative."

The resumed application for discharge by Mr William Stern of West Heath Avenue, Golders Green, London, who has debts of more than £100m was adjourned to a date to be fixed at London Bankruptcy Court yesterday. Mr John O'Reilly, the Official Receiver said he was awaiting a Court of Appeal decision which is expected today.

Stern adjournment

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Airport jobs at risk

From Jonathan Wills, Sumburgh

Talks were held in London yesterday on the future of Sumburgh airport, in the Shetland Islands, where hundreds of islanders face redundancy if the decline in oil-related helicopter traffic continues.

In 1970 the former Spitfire airfield at the southern tip of Shetland was a typical sleepy island airport, with one or two flights a day and a Nissen hut "terminal" where passengers could relax in wicker armchairs and share a pot of tea with the pilot in front of an open fire.

Twelve years and £38m later it is a fully equipped modern airport providing work for 500 people.

Yet every week it is losing more business to Aberdeen airport. Traffic has declined by a third in three years and 250 jobs have gone.

It took nearly a year for Mr A. I. Tulloch, convenor of the Shetland Islands Council, to arrange the meeting with government ministers, the oil industry, airlines and the Civil Aviation Authority, which owns and operates Sumburgh.

Mr Tulloch wants a public inquiry into the building of an £18m terminal for oil industry flights. He says that he has no evidence that the industry gave the authority any written undertakings that the terminal would be used, even though it was the oil industry that asked for the facilities at Sumburgh.

Oil companies are increasingly chartering new generation helicopters to take their workers directly from Aberdeen to the Shetland oilfields, by-passing Sumburgh.

The longer range and greater capacity of the new helicopters is one reason for Sumburgh's decline, but another is the cost of landing there on average four times that at Aberdeen airport, which is run by the British Airports Authority and according to Mr Tulloch has had its capital debts paid by the Government.

No such deal has been made for Sumburgh, where debts of £11m are still outstanding for the oil-related terminal building alone. To pay that off over 20 years the CAA charges an £61N helicopter £444 every time it lands at Sumburgh with an average load of 14 passengers. A Dan-Air HS748 fixed-wing aircraft bringing 25 oil workers north from Aberdeen pays £202. The same aircraft using Aberdeen pays £123 and £189 respectively.

Mr Tulloch asked the Government yesterday to write off the £11m but even if his request is granted it will reduce airport charges by only a quarter.

Mr Tulloch says it is hard to be optimistic about jobs at Sumburgh, a view shared by Mr Jo Grimmond, MP for Orkney and Shetland, who blames the CAA for "an appalling mess of all."

An early government decision is considered unlikely, and although Scottish ministers are said to be sympathetic, that sympathy is unlikely to mean hard cash for Sumburgh.

Legacy of the cod war

Fishermen seek action on EEC agreement

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

About a hundred representatives of fishermen's organizations from all parts of Britain yesterday converged on Westminster to press for agreement on the EEC common fisheries policy.

Talks that should have taken place shortly before Christmas were postponed because Denmark was still trying to form a new government. Since then the presidency has passed from Britain to Belgium, which has shown no interest in getting matters moving again.

The fact is that Britain has a much stronger interest in reaching agreement, through because most of the Community's fish is in British waters.

Without it, it is said, the fleets of inshore boats that have been built up since the 1975, so-called cod war with Iceland deprived the distant water trawlers of their traditional fishing grounds, will continue to depend on government aid for their survival.

It was the cod war that changed everyone's attitudes. Until then there had been a sort of common fisheries policy, cobbled together at the time of Britain's accession, but with each country claiming only a 12-mile limit, beyond which were the "high seas".

When Iceland insisted on a

200-mile limit, the EEC did the same, drawing a line around a vast area extending far into the Atlantic beyond Rockall.

All might have been well, but with the near collapse of distant water fishing too many boats were demanding the right to fish in EEC waters.

Britain insisted on an exclusive six-mile limit for its fishermen, although conceding what are known as historic rights in the 12-mile zone to certain countries.

The Labour government, particularly Mr John Silkin, the Minister concerned, also stood firm on what were termed "areas of dominant preference" outside the 12-mile limit.

Mr Alick Buchanan-Smith, Minister of State for Agriculture, believes progress has been made since on conservation and pricing. But Mr Nigel Atkins, chief executive of the National Federation of Fishermen's Organisations, disagrees.

In his view a potentially successful industry is being bankrupted by indecision.

Mr David Aitchison, chief executive of the Scottish Fishermen's Federation, said when he arrived in London that banks would have foreclosed on many fishermen but for the security of their boats (Jonathan Wills writes).

Complaint against 'Times' upheld by Press Council

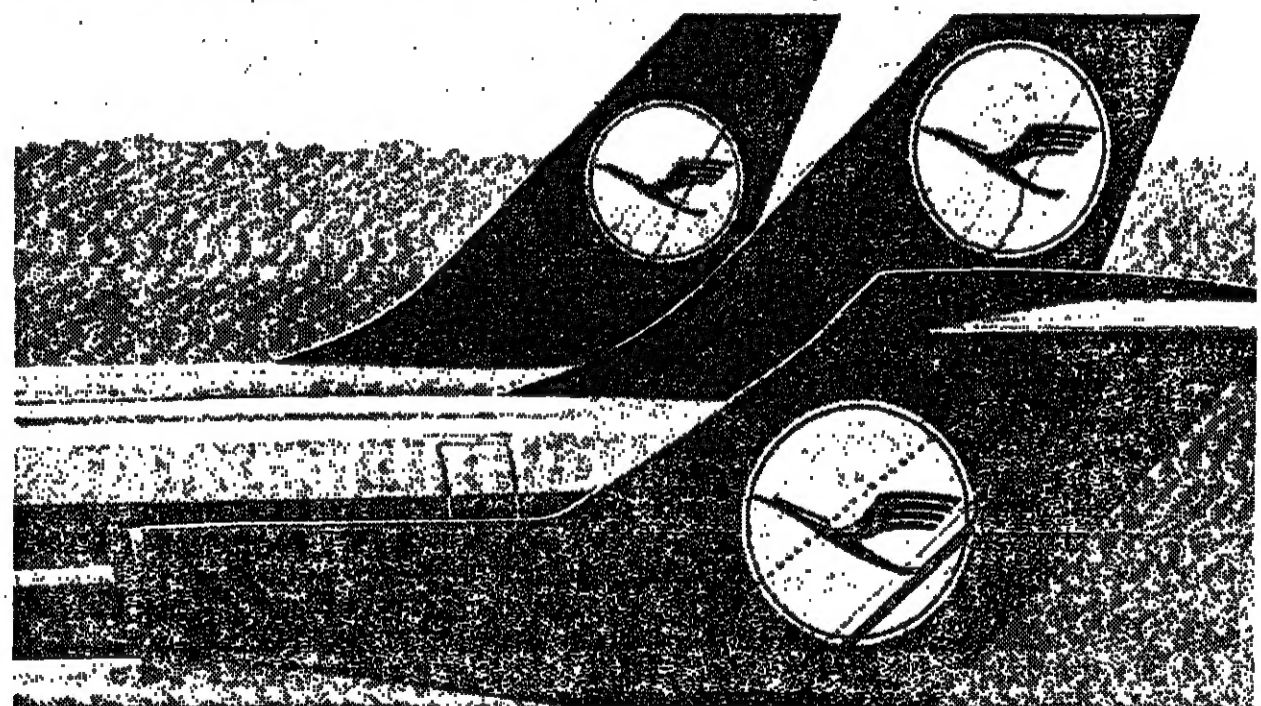
When *The Times* published an inaccurate figure for Protestant deaths through terrorism in Northern Ireland the editor should have published a forthright correction immediately, the Press Council has ruled. He should not have waited more than six weeks to print a reader's corrective letter.

The Press Council upheld complaints by Mr Donal Kennedy of Belmont Avenue, Palmer's Green, London, and Mr F. C. McDermott, of Avenue de Suffren, Paris, that the newspaper failed to publish an adequate correction in May 1981.

In *The Times*, Christopher Thomas said that Protestants in Northern Ireland were lamenting their 2,000 dead from 12 years of terrorism by the IRA and its collaborators. The same day Mr Kennedy told the editor it was fiction that the IRA or its supporters had killed 2,000 people, let alone 2,000 Protestants, and asked for a prompt retraction. He told the Press Council that of about 2,100 people killed during 12 years of political violence a very high proportion were Catholics.

Acknowledging Mr Kennedy's letter *The Times* said that their correspondent had checked and confirmed his figure with several sources. Mr McDermott also wrote to the editor making basically the same complaint as Mr Kennedy.

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More new roads to rid towns of heavy traffic

By Peter Waymark Motoring Correspondent

Eight by-passes are being added or restored to the Government's trunk road programme and about 220 towns and villages are expected to benefit from such roads over the next four to five years.

The details were released in the White Paper, *Policy for Roads*, yesterday, and bring to 15 the number of new by-passes announced in the past few months.

The latest batch includes six on which preparatory work was suspended because of public spending cuts: Stockport and Hazel Grove Greater Manchester which will cost £27.7m at November 1979 prices; Newark, Nottinghamshire (£17m); Bathurst, Devon (£16.6m); Axminster and Rushden, Northamptonshire (£14.4m) and Burscough, Lancashire. The others at Wighton and Egremont in Cumbria, appear in the list for the first time. Estimates for Burscough, Wighton and Egremont are not yet available.

The seven by-passes recently added are Chapel-en-le-Frith and Whaley Bridge, Derbyshire; Epsom, Surrey; Quorn and Mountsorrel, Leicestershire; Beckington, Somerset; Iwade, Kent; Winchelsea, East Sussex; and Blisworth, Northamptonshire.

Mr David Howell, Secretary of State for Transport, said: "These schemes will make a great contribution to the quality of life in the towns concerned. They have suffered from heavy traffic for too long and I am glad to assure them that relief is on the way."

Mr Howell said new trunk roads opened in the past 18 months had taken through

De Lorean chief blames 'bad press'

By David Hewson in London and Piers Akerman in New York

The fate of the De Lorean car company is likely to be sealed today at a meeting in London between the company's board and Mr James Prior, Secretary of State for Northern Ireland, who is expected to rule out further state aid.

The meeting was delayed two days to allow Mr John De Lorean, the company's American founder, to try to raise private capital to keep the receiver at bay. The company is thought to have liabilities of between £30m and £40m and has received more than £80m state aid. Without a successful restructuring immediately it is likely to go into liquidation within days.

Mr C. R. Brown, president of De Lorean Motor Company, said from California that the negative publicity which the company has received since last October has been devastating. The sports car manufacturer by the company appeared primarily to professional people, doctors and lawyers, he said. They do not want to buy the car when they read all the stuff that has been appearing, and so they ask the dealer to hold their car until they can see what is really happening.

Mr Brown said four of his area directors are convincing that sales of the car would have doubled if there had not been such bad publicity. "Through December we held our own with other cars in our range. We outsold Jaguar by almost double and kept right up there, about 5,100 had been sold to dealers in the United States. There were 435 on a ship bound for Long Beach and a further 700 awaiting shipment from Belfast."

"We have had a lot of offers of support, particularly oil money, but the time factor is against us. What we need is a restructuring."

Mr Brown said that it was a great pity that the British press had always emphasized the size of the British Government investment, but had not noted that around £130m (£71m) had been returned to Northern Ireland in wages and plant by the company.

"The loss to the British taxpayer is really negligible, particularly if you consider what it might have cost to pay unemployment benefits to all these people if the company had not been started at all."

Mr George Clark, an official with the Northern Ireland section of the Transport and General Workers' Union, said that there was still some optimism that the company could be saved. "But we are concerned at the hard line the Cabinet appears to be taking."



Chinese bridge the gap in Liverpool

Mr Brian Tai Shen Wang, aged 32, Chinese community officer with Liverpool City Council, standing in front of Liverpool's pagoda, which will be officially opened by the Prince of Wales on April 2.

The pagoda is also equipped for sports like "chients" a game in which players use only their feet to keep a shuttlecock off the ground. A playgroup, pensioners' club, talks on Chinese history and culture, and language classes are also planned.

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Tobacco sponsorship of sport may be extended

From Annabel Ferriman, Health Services Correspondent, Southampton

A new agreement between the Government and the tobacco industry over the sponsorship of sport is about to be announced. In spite of exhortations from Britain's top medical men, it is thought that it will allow an increase in spending on sports sponsorship from £4.5m a year to £6m.

It is also going to run for four years, instead of three, which means that the tobacco industry can be sure of no interference for a long period.

The new agreement is a rebuff for Britain's royal medical and surgical colleges which wrote to Mr Neil Macfarlane, minister for sport, before Christmas urging the Government not to enter into new voluntary agreements.

They said that such an agreement would be ineffective and would allow the tobacco companies, hours of advertising on television through the screening of sports events when tobacco advertising on television was

Farmers earn more and the outlook is better

By John Young, Agriculture Correspondent

Farm incomes went up slightly last year according to the Annual Review of Agriculture, published as a White Paper yesterday.

The review also shows that farmers borrowed 50 per cent from banks in 1979 and that new investment was down on 1980.

Incomes are estimated to have risen by an average of 14 per cent. Taking inflation into account, they were still slightly higher than in 1980, but were lower in real terms than in 1976-78.

Outstanding bank advances were about £3,400, 20 per cent more than in 1980. Although that reflects some increase in loans for land purchase, most of it was for farming purposes, the review says.

Investment in new buildings and works fell by 13 per cent to £475m, and in plant, machinery and vehicles by 16 per cent to £440m.

The income improvement was due to a continuing high level of production, high 1982 prices, and a 49 per cent increase in some commodities

and the fact that the value of sales rose more than costs. Looking forward to the year ending this month without taking into account the effects of the severe weather, the review indicates further recovery.

The largest increases are expected in Northern Ireland and Scotland, where the output value of most products, particularly potatoes, sheep and cattle, is expected to increase while the rise in costs of feedstuffs and depreciation is naturally smaller than in 1980-81.

The number of farms fell by about 5 per cent between 1976 and 1981 to 242,300. The average area increased by about 6 per cent to 119 hectares.

Cereal growing increased on average from 32 to 38 hectares and sugar beet by nearly 20 per cent. There were also big rises in the average size of dairy and pig herds and of ewe flocks.

NEWS IN SUMMARY

Gun suicide verdict is quashed

A verdict of suicide recorded by a coroner on a solicitor's son who died from a gunshot wound in the head was quashed yesterday and two judges ordered a fresh inquest before a different coroner to be held.

David Nicholas Garlick, aged 20, died when he was staying at Bothamsall Hall, Bothamsall, Retford, Nottinghamshire, as custodian of the hall while the owner was away.

Lord Justice Ackner, sitting in the Queen's Bench Divisional Court, with Mr Justice Woolf, said yesterday: "Not only was there no evidence of suicidal intent, there was strong evidence to the contrary."

The suicide verdict was recorded by Lieutenant Colonel H. J. Thompson, the Retford coroner, in April last year. Lord Justice Ackner said it was only a pathologist's evidence that the circumstances of death were compatible with Mr Garlick having held the gun to his head which had raised any suggestion that death was not accidental.

Pools win for jobless man

A man who has been unemployed for three years has won £129,000 on the football pools. Mr Willie Muir, aged 51, from Greenock, formerly a sugar process worker, said yesterday: "It's too soon to say what we will do with the money."

Mr Charles Hill, aged 53, a mineworker from Bilston, near Edinburg, has won £138,000. He plans to retire early.

Petrol bomb idea came from TV

Two boys aged 12 and 13, from South Shields, were fined £25 with £3 costs by a juvenile court at Hebburn, South Tyneside, yesterday for having three petrol bombs, which they made, as offensive weapons.

Mr Derek Walker, for the defence, said the boys were influenced by watching riots on television last year. They had decided to bomb railway tracks, the court was told.

Reward for Breughel

A £5,000 reward was offered by the Courtauld Institute yesterday for information leading to the return of a £500,000 Breughel stolen from the London Gallery earlier this month. Professor Michael Kitson, the institute's deputy director, said the thieves would have trouble selling the painting.

Hayward puts money on October 1983 election

By John Winder

The next general election would be held in October next year and the Labour Party was working hard for victory then, Mr Ronald Hayward, who is retiring general secretary of the party, said at a lunch in his honour in the Parliamentary Press Gallery yesterday.

Mr Hayward said that he had made a £10 bet that the election would be held in October 1983.

The significance of the Labour Party's meeting at Bishop's Stortford in January had been that the unions had ratified themselves to supporting the Labour Party politically and financially. Both were essential for a Labour victory, and both

would be forthcoming, Mr Hayward said.

The party had as many caucuses as Heinz had soups, he joked, adding: "If all that energy and cash dissipated on them could be put into the party proper, we would be greatly strengthened."

Mr Hayward said the party would start a national campaign on March 15 to promote its socialist strategy. That would include expansion led by public spending and investment; price controls to check inflation; imports controlled for a planned growth in trade; common ownership and planning for industrial revival and special employment measures to guarantee an equal right to work.

Street violence

Police fear rise in robbery

By Nicholas Timmins

Street crime has risen sharply in London in the past year, both in Brixton and in areas not seriously affected by last year's riots.

Robbery and other violent theft, the category that includes muggings, has risen by more than 50 per cent in some areas and the police are worried about the increased violence.

Full figures for last year are to be released early next month. But figures for the first three-quarters of last year show steep increases. In south London, which traditionally has the worst figures of the four Metropolitan police areas, the total in the third quarter of 1981 was 1,855, two-thirds up on the same period in 1980 and approaching double the figure, 952, for the same period in 1979.

The biggest percentage increase is believed to be in Lewisham, despite the determined effort in community policing that has put more policemen on the beat. Robberies and other violent thefts in that division, which includes Bromley, rose by 60 per cent in the nine months to September, up from 539 to 862, while confidential informants given by the police to Lewisham councillors are said to show a 96 per cent increase in the borough itself over the year, up from 604 to 1,189.

Some of the street crime has become increasingly brazen. In the past three

M40 route threatens butterflies

From Our correspondent, Oxford

Plans to drive a motorway through one of Britain's important butterfly breeding areas have won a county council's support.

The proposed M40 extension through Bernwood Forest and across Otmoor, an area of outstanding natural beauty in Oxfordshire, has angered environmental groups.

But the route marked out by the Department of Transport as part of the £200m motorway extension from Oxford to Warwick, has been backed by Oxfordshire County Council, it decided by a majority of three to support the Otmoor route at a public inquiry last night.

The proposal has been opposed because the forest is home to some of the rarest species of butterfly, including the black hairstreak, grizzled skipper and purple emperor. Mr Charles Secret, the national wildlife spokesman for Friends of the Earth, said the route showed a callous disregard for butterflies.

Otmoor is a wild marshy area a few miles from Oxford city centre, which inspired the chessboard in Lewis Carroll's *Alice Through the Looking Glass*.

Protesters want the proposed extension moved three miles to the east.

BLIND CHILD WINS FIGHT FOR SCHOOL

A girl born without eyes will spend her first day at a nursery run by the Royal National Institute for the Blind today after a "compromise" decision by her local council to pay the fees.

Wiral Borough Council's refusal to pay the fees for Shelly Benbow, aged three, of Maxwell Close, Upton, Wirral, had been criticized by Mr David Hunt, Conservative MP for Wirral, and well-wishers promised several hundred pounds to the girl's mother.

Mr Michael Nicol, Wirral's education director, said yesterday: "We have only wanted what is best for Shelly from the beginning. It has never been a question of money, rather what would be better for her."

Will employment destroy this man?

9.00 SHELLEY. A brand new series returns starring Hywel Bennett and Belinda Sinclair. Tonight, Shelley faces the threat of permanent employment and sets about enjoying his last few days of freedom.

With Thames News at 6.00 with Andrew Gardner and Rita Carter, Thames Sport at 6.30 and Does the Team Think at 7.00 you're sure to look on the bright side this evening.

Guard yourselves, Heseltine says

By Lucy Hodges

A strong plea for people to do their own policing through crime prevention was made yesterday by Mr Michael Heseltine, the Environment Secretary, who was given the task of resuscitating the inner cities after last year's riots.

More policing was too simple an answer to the appalling crime in the inner cities, he said. People had to be involved in improving their environment.

The minister, who was speaking at a conference in London organized by the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders, was in favour of schemes in which council

Michael Heseltine: People must help themselves

tenants ran their estates themselves.

Local authorities had to be sensitive to tenants' needs, he said, which meant that local management was important. That meant the police assigning officers to particular housing estates. Lord Scarman's report had given a lead.

"The job of such officers is to act as a visible deterrent to would-be offenders and to ensure that police assistance is readily available. It is, in a sense, an effort to encapsulate the concept of the village bobby in an urban community."

Trained housing staff should be allocated to prob-

French Cabinet names 44 to head state firms

From Charles Hargrove, Paris, Feb 17

The heads of 44 nationalized industries, financial groups, and banks were appointed by the Cabinet today, in one of the biggest movements of personnel ever carried out under the Fifth Republic, and one with far-reaching consequences for the economic success of the Socialist experiment.

The appointments announced have produced no sensations. They appear to have been dictated by the desire not for revolution but for change in continuity.

Among the left-wing colouring in some cases, and the appointment of three women to head nationalized banks, those chosen are drawn from that vast reservoir of graduates of the Grandes Ecoles who, since the end of the war, have worked with equal ease in the higher ranks of the Administration and in key posts in business and industry.

But there has been no massive promotion of left-wing politicians or trade unionists, or people outside that charmed circle which has governed France under two republics.

Only two of them are given industrial or semi-industrial posts. M Michel Molin, a member of the CPDT leftist trade union executive and of the Socialist Party, is made head of a new energy saving agency, and M Georges Valbon, a member of the Communist Party committee, with the reputation of a good local government administrator, becomes head of the National Coal Board.

A third, M Georges Resse, is made head of the National Coal Board.



M Jean Yves Haberer: To head Paribas bank group.



M Jean Gandois: Remains at the Rhone-Poulenc helm.



M Roger Fauroux: Stays as director of Saint-Gobain.

The new head of Thomson-Brandt, M Alain Gomez was a director of Saint Gobain, but with the established reputation of a "left-wing manager", and a strong supporter of M Mitterrand. A more unusual appointment is that of M Jean-Pierre Brunet, a professional diplomat and former Ambassador in Tokyo and born as head of the biggest industrial group, the Compagnie Generale d'Electricite. But he too had always had left-wing sympathies. Where the banks are concerned, three of them are already nationalized, and 18 will be nationalized next July, among them three mutual banks to be denationalized by an elaborate process later. The appointments all involve people with senior banking or managerial experience. The appointment of M Jean-Yves Haberer, the treasury director at the finance Ministry, at the head of the Paribas financial group, was known for months.

The new head of Suez is M Georges Plescoff, who was president of the nationalized Assurances Generales de France since 1970. M Rene Thomas, the managing director of the BNP, one of the already nationalized "big three", becomes its general administrator.

who becomes head of Pechiney-Ugine-Kuhlmann, born of a working class family but a graduate of the Ecole Polytechnique, was head of the Cogema, the wholly owned industrial branch of the Atomic Energy Authority.

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M Jacques Mayoux, former president of the recently nationalized steel firm, Sacilor, and responsible for the success of the Credit Agricole, is given the Societe Generale, another of the "big three", as a handsome consolation prize.

M Michel de Boissieu, who is appointed general administrator of Rothschild bank, was managing director of the group in the 1960s, and a member of its supervisory board since 1963.

In the case of the banks, none of the former presidents have kept their jobs, although the betting was in past weeks that two of them stood a good chance. The new appointments are more "pink" than their predecessors, on the whole, and less prominent members of the administrative and business establishment.

One or two are actually members of the socialist "think tank" — M Robert Fossaert, who becomes head of the BNP, and M Jean Matouk, an economist, of the Banque Chais.

Of the three women appointed today Mme Lisette Mayret, director of the Compagnie Financiere of the Rothschild group, whose career has been in banking, becomes general administrator of the Banque Paribas, a leading Protestant bank.

The other two women, Mme Christiane Dore, and Mme Helene Ploix, are appointed Commissioners of the Government for the Banque Industrielle et Mobilier Privée, respectively.

Today's appointments are the prelude to the definition of a new industrial policy, in which the nationalized groups are expected to play the role of leaders.

They are also the start of a far-reaching reorganization. A Bill to this effect will be submitted to parliament next autumn. It amounts to nothing less than a minor revolution of French banking practices.

Civil rites get equal status in Greece

From Mario Mediano Athens, Feb 17

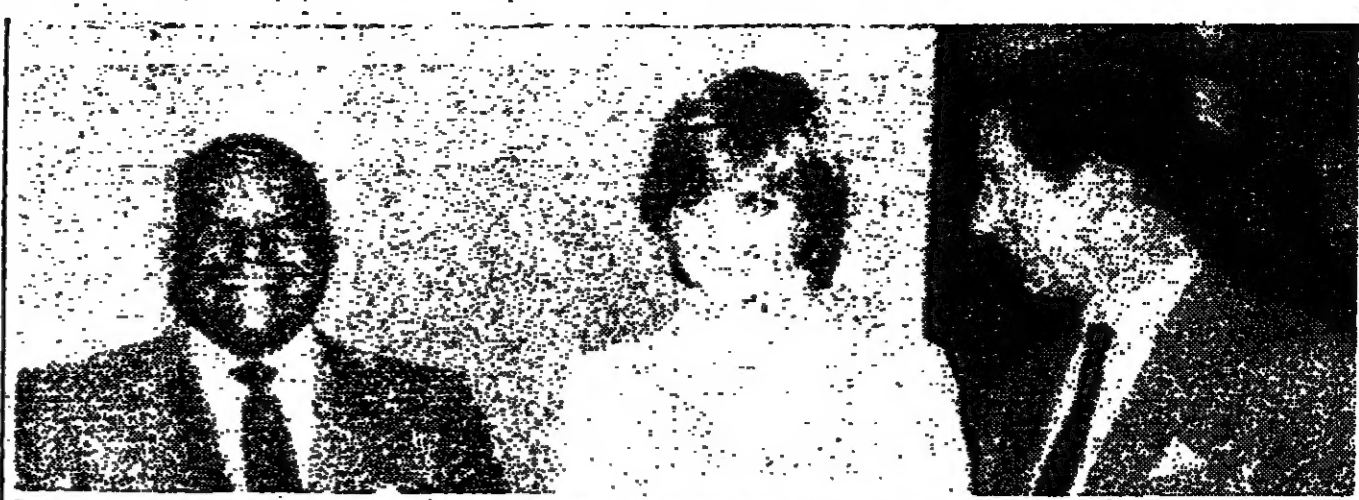
The Socialist Government has tabled a draft Bill making civil marriage in Greece legal but not compulsory — thus giving in to church objections as well as to the surprisingly strong negative public reaction.

The new law will give equally validity to civil and church weddings, but most of the restrictions relating to religious marriages are to be abolished for the civil procedure.

These include the lifting of the ban on the fourth marriage, mixed marriages, the disqualification of people convicted for adultery and the ban on marriages between blood relations. Greek clergymen and monks who have taken a vow of celibacy, would be able to marry under the civil procedure.

However, the general synod of the orthodox Church of Greece said recently that it would tolerate the civil marriage only in the case of Greeks of other religions, or atheists.

Mr Stathis Alexandris, Minister of Justice, in tabling the draft Bill last night, explained why the Government had not heeded the demands of Greek women's organisations, the Athens law faculty and the Bar Association in favour of the compulsory civil marriage, leaving the church ceremony optional.



Royal progress: The Governor-General of the Bahamas, Sir Gerald Cash, greeting the Prince and Princess of Wales at a brief stopover at Nassau airport on their way to a ten-day holiday on Windward Island, Eleuthera, in the Bahamas. They also made a one-hour stop at Hamilton, Bermuda, and went on a brief "walkabout".

Madrid worried by wave of killings

From Richard Wigg, Madrid, Feb 17

Senior Leopoldo Calvo Sotelo, the Prime Minister, today attended the funeral of two of the latest Civil Guard victims of a fresh wave of killings, possibly by ETA, the Basque separatist organization.

He thereby demonstrated the Spanish Government's extreme concern, just before the court martial of those involved in last year's attempted military coup was about to begin.

The Government is worried about the impact that further killings, or the possible kidnapping of an Army general, might have on the trial, which starts here on Friday. Any general might be at risk, but there are 12 Army and Air Force generals and three Vice-Admirals in the court-martial.

No claim for responsibility for yesterday's killing has yet been made by either wing of the Basque separatist organization. But the Government's special police anti-terrorist squad said last night that the two Civil Guards, one on active service and the other retired, were "evident" victims of ETA's more violent military wing.

The two men were killed within hours of each other in two different places in the Basque region.

Accompanied by Juan Roson, the interior Minister, the Prime Minister flew from Madrid to San Sebastian this morning. This is the first time that he has made this gesture after the murder of Civil Guardsman, though he did so shortly after taking office, when senior army officers were killed in the Basque region.

The *Diario Vasco*, a usually well-informed Basque daily, reported today that a decision to resume a campaign of killings and violence was also taken by ETA's hitherto more moderate politico-military wing, at a secret meeting last weekend.

Since the beginning of this month, when a special Cabinet committee set up to superintend the security arrangements for the February 23 coup trial first studied the issue, the Government had been worried about reports that the more moderate wing would break the truce that it had declared immediately after last year's coup attempt.

The Basque autonomous regional Government has condemned yesterday's killing, saying that they were "clearly a bid to destroy democracy at an extremely delicate moment" as the court martial begins. The ruling Basque Nationalist Party today urged everyone throughout the Basque country to repudiate this fresh outburst of violence, if they wished to preserve the region's autonomous status.

The police anti-terrorist squad today announced the arrest of a five-man group belonging to ETA's military wing near Bilbao, together with their arms and explosives.

A police statement accused the five of responsibility for the killing of a Civil Guard last October in the Basque region.

Peace ship may set sail for Ulster

From Christopher Walker Jerusalem, Feb 17

Mr Abie Nathan, the eccentric but determined owner of the Voice of Peace radio ship, announced today that after 16 years of attempting to reconcile Jews and Arabs, he will leave for Northern Ireland at the weekend in an effort to promote peace between Protestants and Roman Catholics.

Mr Nathan first came to world attention when he flew his private aircraft, Shalom 1, into Egypt in 1966, at a time when it was still in a state of war with Israel. He was imprisoned by the Israelis after returning from a similar solo peace mission a year later.

His further activities have ranged from a 45-day hunger strike aimed at halting Jewish settlement in the occupied territories to an unsuccessful attempt to take his radio ship into Beirut harbour in 1978 to deliver a cargo of medicines and children's clothing.

The station, which broadcast a mix of music, advertisements and peace jingles, closed down at midnight on December 31 with a record by the late John Lennon. Mr Nathan has failed to secure an Israeli licence for his ship to broadcast from the shore in winter.

He told reporters that he would fly to Belfast on Sunday "to see whether they want us to sail the ship there, whatever the risks."

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Peking fails to dispel doubts on Deng future

From David Bonavia, Peking, Feb 17

Mystery is increasing here about the whereabouts and activities of Vice-Chairman Deng Xiaoping, hitherto considered the effective leader of the Chinese Communist Party and Government, who has not been seen in public for more than five weeks.

Ambiguous statements by other leaders have only served to deepen the sense of puzzlement. The Foreign Ministry has said that Mr Deng retains his previous high posts in the party and the armed forces. Yesterday, Chairman Hu Yaobang widely considered to be Mr Deng's protégé — told a visiting Chinese-American scientist that the party leadership was strong and united, but did not refer to Mr Deng.

Earlier, Mr Bo Yibo, a deputy Prime Minister denied there would be a purge of the bureaucracy this year, whereas Mr Deng is thought to be committed to exactly such a move.

The party's theoretical journal has reiterated the need for a purge of corrupt, inefficient or over-age officials. The jobs of leftists who came up during the Cultural Revolution may also be in jeopardy.

Mr Deng, who is thought to have gone to southern China over the Chinese New Year last month, was originally rumoured to be on an inspection tour. He has since sent a wreath for the funeral of a relatively little known party official and a message of encouragement to an army conference on forestry. But he remains out of sight.

Two interpretations are being put on this state of affairs, apart from the view of some observers that it is of no significance. One version is that Mr Deng has been forced to step down because of the strong resistance to his purge plans.

Another is that he has voluntarily withdrawn to the "second rank" as Mr Wan Li, another Deputy Prime Minister, put it last week, because he is feeling his age or is disheartened by the resistance to his modernizing, relatively liberal policies.

Although Chairman Hu laid emphasis on collective leadership, this is truly an accomplished fact during the past three decades of communist rule.

On the contrary, the leadership's course has been strewn with plots and conspiracies, treachery, calumny, civil unrest, economic crisis and violent death. Guiding policies have been turned upside down at irregular intervals, but with awesome frequency.

The reason for concern at Mr Deng's prolonged absence from public view is that many of his crucial policies are still in their formative or intermediate stage. They are controversial enough to be difficult or impossible to implement without his strong personality and great experience.

The economy, for instance, is going through a transitional phase in the conversion from heavy to light industry, and the liberalization of agriculture, giving the peasants much more freedom to plant what crops they like and market them as profitably as they can after providing a fixed quota for the state.

Some highly placed people — especially in the armed forces — fear that this is a reversion to "feudalism" which will undermine Mao Tse-tung's system of people's communes.

Similarly, in industry, an influential group of top-level economic planners and administrators is believed to feel that the steel and oil industries have been cut back enough if not too much.

Nor is there likely to be unity over foreign and strategic affairs. Mr Deng's strong commitment to friendship with the United States has led him into a quagmire because of President Reagan's insistence on selling arms to Taiwan.

China remains powerless to influence the situation in Indo-China, where Vietnam has established almost total domination and alignment with the Soviet Union.

Another invasion of Vietnam by China would arouse disputes here about timing and tactics.

There is also disagreement about the desirability of the introduction of aspects of Western culture and traditional Chinese culture, previously called decadent, and the continued attack on the policies of Mao.

Unemployment is particularly serious among former servicemen who were demobilized because of defence cuts.

There are, in short, many aspects of Mr Deng's policies which are open to severe criticism by other revolutionary veterans and members of the public.

Most of them have been muted so far by the sense of awe and direction which he has imparted. But it is possible that the threat of a mass purge of party and government officials may have come up against opposition too resolute for even him to cope with.

Sex poser for lady Captain of the Castle

From Peter Nichols, Rome, Feb 17

San Marino, Europe's oldest and smallest republic, perched on Mount Titano where St Marinus was supposed to have founded his tranquil as well as tiny state — is split on the feminist issue.

Reports have come down the mountain that a court decision favouring women's rights is to be challenged. Last week the judiciary reversed an existing law and gave women born in San Marino the right to keep their nationality if they married outside the republic.

Until that decision, which many women proclaimed historic, a man born in San Marino retained his citizenship, whomever he married and could pass it on to his children, but women lost their rights to citizenship if they looked for a husband outside the 36 square miles of sovereign territory.

A demonstration organized by the Women's Union of San Marino expressed immense joy at the court verdict. A law which they regarded as unfair and which had been in effect for 53 years had been overturned.

The judge, however, ruled only that a woman maintained her rights of citizenship: there was no question of giving women the right enjoyed by men of making their children citizens.

The verdict was the result of a legal action brought by a San Marino woman who had married an Italian and so under the old law had forfeited her citizenship.

There are also said to be a disturbing number of women who do not marry their foreign lovers, even if they have children by them, for fear of losing their citizenship and their rights to an unusually generous social security system.

An appeal against the verdict has been made on the grounds that the court did not have the power to reverse legislation. The appeal was regarded as sufficiently important and dangerous for the rights of women for the female Captain of the Castle of San Marino to explain the grounds that the court did not have the power to reverse legislation.

The coalition Government is in no position to advise the Captains Regent. Although it has 31 seats in Parliament, it cannot count on the vote of the single Social Democrat on this issue, so that the parliamentary line-up would be 30-30.



Unaccustomed behaviour: Scores of angry striking French customs officers, outnumbered by police, were kept away from the Elysee Palace where a Cabinet meeting was in progress yesterday.

France takes brunt of MEP criticism

From George Clark, Strasbourg, Feb 17

Prophesies of gloom and doom dominated speeches from all parties in the European Parliament today when MEPs debated the pessimistic report on the state of the EEC given yesterday by Mr Gaston Thorn, President of the Commission.

Most of them endorsed his assertion that the community is in serious danger of deserting its free trade principles and retreating behind national trade barriers.

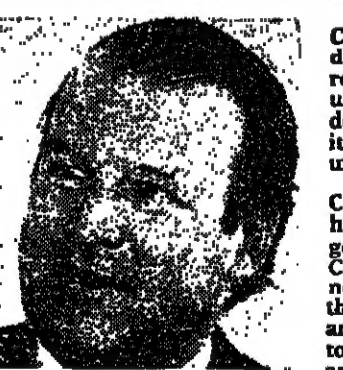
Mr Basil de Ferranti, Conservative MEP for Hampshire, West, pinpointed the latest manifestations of protectionism under the socialist regime in France. He referred to the walling off of the French market from other EEC countries, and condemned particularly the plans to protect the French machine tools, textiles, leather goods, toys and furniture industries.

Herr Karl-Heinz Narjes, the Commissioner for the Internal Market and Consumer Protection, said that fuller details had been requested from the French government, but it appeared that the measures were in complete violation of the principles of free trade.

Complaints had come from other countries that measures already introduced by France had paralyzed or destroyed some trade within the Community.

A French minister had been invited to Brussels to explain the motivation and extent of the measures and the Commission would then give an official ruling whether they were incompatible with Community rules.

Mr De Ferranti recalled that Mr Thorn had said that the single market was the Community's priceless asset.



Mr de Ferranti: "Britain a sorry example"

but he thought, judging by recent events, that most people would like to have the old tariff system back again instead of the present dangerous and hidden non-tariff barriers.

National authorities asserted their right to test products for compliance with certain specifications and these procedures were easily used to slow down the flow of imports.

"In Britain we have an all too sorry example of what this can lead to," said Mr De Ferranti. "The British car industry has for years been protected by the national system of granting type approval certificates."

"This has allowed British motor manufacturers to maintain prices that are 30 to 40 per cent higher than prices in other member states. While they may vainly hope that this helps them to hang on to their share of the domestic market, it has progressively meant that they have priced themselves out of community and world markets."

It would be tragic if France were now to go along the same road, taking action which they short-sightedly think will protect their industries.

Lack of progress in devising any European strategy for industrial developments that could provide more jobs was a constant theme, and the Conservative group, under Sir Henry Plumb, its new leader, has decided to set up a special subcommittee, which will have advice from British, American and continental businessmen. To see what new initiatives can be proposed.

Strong backing is being given to the Channel tunnel scheme as a joint European enterprise.

The chronic inability of the Council of Ministers to reach decisions, especially on the restructuring of the Community's finances was condemned, but the Commission itself did not come out unscathed.

Sir Henry Plumb, for the Conservatives, said that it had been largely incapable of getting the decisions that the Community so desperately needed. He gave notice that the Commission's performance would be closely monitored in the next 12 months, and there was a hint that there could be opposition to a renewal of Mr Thorn's appointment.

St Lucia seeks end to turmoil

From Jeremy Taylor, Port of Spain, Feb 17

After nearly three years of political turmoil, the Caribbean island of St Lucia is preparing for a general election, which must be held by May 7.

Mr John Compton, the pro-Western leader who headed the Government for 15 years until he was defeated in 1979 soon after independence from Britain.

Until the election, St Lucia, a ruggedly beautiful volcanic island with 115,000 people is being run by an interim government, the fourth since independence. It came to power in mid-January after public protest toppled the Labour Party government of Mr Winston Compton.

The Prime Minister is Mr Michael Pilgrim, a 35-year-old accountant and graduate of the North-East London Polytechnic, who entered politics only three years ago. Mr Pilgrim, a popular figure of the moderate left with thick, shoulder-length hair, was sworn in on January 17 under an agreement between all political parties.

He appointed to his cabinet one representative from each of the two main parties, filling the rest of the posts with representatives from the private sector, the trades unions and other organizations — "what we need in this country is unity," he said.

St Lucia is still heavily reliant on agricultural exports (including bananas for the private sector, the trades unions and other organizations — "what we need in this country is unity," he said.

Mr Compton's United Workers' Party (UWP) was defeated in 1979 by the Labour Party (SLP) which was led by Mr Allan Louisy, made an incautious deal with Mr George Odlum, his ambitious left-wing deputy to hand over power after six months, which he failed to do, plunging the SLP into a bitter leadership feud which crippled its work as a government.

St Lucia slipped into economic decline which eroded confidence at home and abroad. Mr Louisy's government fell last year but the SLP struggled for eight months under Mr Winston Compton, his Attorney General, while Mr Odlum left to form his own, aggressive Labour Party (PLP).

The Compton Government fell last month after trying to introduce legislation to allow MPs to accept government contracts and more time to account for official funds spent abroad.

It was the last straw. There were protests from the unions, the business sector and the entire political opposition which almost shut down the island for a week.

Letter from Grenada Airport threatens exotic lifestyle

When Gil Sevil, an American born in Cuba, flew into the former British colony of Grenada (pronounced Gren-ay-da) the other day, he found a lot of his former fellow-countrymen briskly building an airport large enough to handle the most modern aircraft.

"There were quite a few Cubans with machine guns," said Mr Sevil, cruise director of the Costa Lines cruise ship The Daphne. "But they were quite friendly."

"When you inquire why the tiny, 21-mile long island needs a huge airport, they say 'to bring in more tourists,'" he added. "But one 747-load of passengers would fill every single room in town for a week."

There is plenty of activity at the new airport at Salines Point as the Cubans, using Russian equipment, rush to finish the job.

In many parts of the Caribbean and Central America these days, Cubans can be seen at work on aid projects. In Grenada so far, the aid appears to be benevolent.

Mr Maurice Bishop, the London-educated lawyer who became Prime Minister in a bloodless revolution in 1979 while his predecessor, Sir Eric Gairy was visiting New York, has already survived one assassination attempt.

Mr Maurice Bishop, the London-educated lawyer who became Prime Minister in a bloodless revolution in 1979 while his predecessor, Sir Eric Gairy was visiting New York, has already survived one assassination attempt.

Stepping off the cruise ship Daphne, I found Grenada quaint but poverty-stricken. Shops are forlorn with peeling paint, supermarket shelves are half-empty and yet there is a bustle in town as scores of schoolchildren, in their English-style uniforms, wait for buses to take them home. Tourists, Americans in particular, are somewhat apprehensive about the Cuban-Russian connexions with the lush, green island and their anxieties are not diminished by tales about a top-secret enclave, heavily guarded and closed to the public.

At the port of St George's, once you have fought off the guides, taxi-drivers and native ladies offering a variety of spices, the locals are extremely courteous. Joann Koch, director of the film society at the Lincoln Centre in New York, told me: "We've been coming here for seven years

and we've never had a moment's concern. The main road, Royal Drive, that runs to the former British colonial residences, is rutted, bumpy and in disrepair and there are signs and graffiti that declare: "Welcome to Free Grenada" or "Women step forward".

The British colony survived behind high walls and guard gates until Mr Bishop took power and told them they were welcome to stay but that they had to remove their fortifications. Many chose to leave in some cases selling their property at a tenth of its value. There is also a strong North American presence on the island in the form of the St George's University medical school, known as "the school of last resort" and peopled by young, would-be doctors who could not get places in medical schools in the United States.

Never can medical students have studied in more exotic surroundings. One of its two campuses is on the palm-fringed, white, sandy beach where students mingle with snorkeling and sunbathing tourists.

Because of the airport expansion, the school will lose one of its campuses and may be forced to leave the island soon, something that the Vice-Chancellor, Dr Geoffrey Bourne, claims would severely affect Grenada's fragile economy.

"We pump over \$5m a year into the local economy," he says. "That's one-fifth of the country's entire operation budget." He says Grenada gets \$10m from banana and cocoa exports, \$5m from spices, and another \$5m from tourism. Ever since its independence, Dr Bourne says that he is on very friendly terms with the Prime Minister.

"When the revolution took place, I called the Prime Minister and told him that, although Grenada was cut off from the outside world, our school was still operating. So we were able to tell worried American parents, the State Department and the world that all was well in Grenada."

There have been suggestions lately that there may be a CIA agent among the students. Dr Bourne commented: "I have told the Prime Minister that we have nothing to do with the CIA. Of course, I can't avoid the possibility that the CIA might have infiltrated here. But I'm not suspicious of any student. In any event, we tell our students to stay out of politics and keep their mouths shut."

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NEWS IN SUMMARY

Flag of convenience for Nato

Brussels — Luxembourg, the smallest Nato state whose armed forces consist of 700 soldiers, is to acquire a £1,000m paper air force stationed in West Germany with forward bases in Italy, Norway, Italy and Britain (Reuters reports, quoting Nato sources).

Formalities were almost complete to register in the grand Duchy the 18 airborne warning and control system (AWACS) aircraft converted Boeing 707s — which will give the alliance an extra 15 minutes warning of any attack. Luxembourg was chosen as the state of registration because its law does not require the few of aircraft registered there to be Luxembourg nationals.

The Nato Council yesterday approved a letter to the Luxembourg Government participating in it of responsibility for any damage caused by the aircraft which will carry the Luxembourg lion on the tail and "Nato" on the fuselage.

Corsicans bomb 17 targets

Paris — Seventeen bomb explosions damaged banks and other commercial premises in Paris but caused no casualties. A telephone caller to a news agency claimed responsibility on behalf of the Corsican National Liberation Front.

The group, which has waged a violent campaign aimed at winning Corsica's independence, said last week it was ending an eight-month truce.

Refugees end hunger strike

About 80 Vietnamese refugees have ended a hunger strike at a Hong Kong camp which they began last Wednesday in protest over their uncertain future and the length of time they have been detained.

Some have been awaiting resettlement for two years. Hong Kong's "correctional officers" moved the strike leaders to other camps and the situation was said to have returned to normal.

Nixon's name crops up again in bribery trial

From Peter Hazelhurst, Tokyo, Feb 17

Japan's Lockheed bribery trials took a new turn today when prosecutors in the Tokyo district court produced affidavits which allege that Mr Kakuei Tanaka, a former Prime Minister, attempted to persuade the directors of All Nippon Airways to take Lockheed Tristar aircraft from the American Manufacturers.

Mr Tanaka, who resigned in disgrace in 1974 and was subsequently brought to trial on charges of bribery, allegedly attempted to persuade the airline to purchase the aircraft at the request of Mr Richard Nixon, the former American President.

The affidavits of leading businessmen who are implicated in the scandal, suggest that Mr Nixon asked Mr Tanaka to persuade All Nippon Airways to take the Lockheed Tristar when the two leaders met in Hawaii in 1972.

The prosecutors allege that Mr Tanaka had abused his influence in exerting undue influence on All Nippon Airways (ANA) in the interests of the Lockheed Corporation. In one affidavit produced today, Mr Naoki Watanabe, the former vice-president of the airline, alleged that he had discussed the issue with Mr Tokujir Wakasa, the airline's former president, shortly after Mr Tanaka returned to Tokyo from the Hawaiian summit meeting.

GENOCIDE CLAIM BY LAWYERS

From Our Correspondent, Delhi, Feb 17

A group of Asian lawyers have accused the Soviet forces of committing genocide in Afghanistan, in a report published today.

The legal inquiry committee, into the happenings in Afghanistan headed by Mr P. N. Lekhi, the Indian Supreme Court advocate, said that the Soviet intervention had violated the United Nations Charter.

Mr Lekhi told reporters that the committee had approached the Bar Association of Pakistan and other Asian countries, but they did not respond. Lawyers from Sri Lanka, Thailand and Bangladesh, besides India, took part in the inquiry which was sitting in Delhi.

AUSTRALIA FACES ELECTIONS

From Our Correspondent, Melbourne, Feb 17

The Australian Democrats, the party which holds the balance of power in the Senate, could be pushing closer to a double dissolution — resulting in elections for both the Senate and the House of Representatives. They have announced that they would veto the Government's planned sales tax on basic essentials, claiming that they can save the average family \$A1.30 (about 88p) a week.

This plan had been denounced by Government leaders as interference with budget strategy and a threat to the Government's ability to cut taxes. Rejection of the tax-raising proposal will cost the Government \$A53m this financial year.

51 Guatemalan Indians hacked to death

From Our Correspondent, Guatemala City, Feb 17

Fifty-one Indian farmers, including some women and children, were decapitated yesterday morning at their homes in the Uspantán region of Quiché department, western Guatemala, by unidentified men wielding machetes.

The massacre was revealed by a group of reporters who visited western Guatemala, where a big military and guerrilla operation is in progress. The reporters described emotional scenes in various towns of the Uspantán region, with relatives crying over the dismembered bodies of the victims. Guatemalan television showed some such scenes tonight.

Senior military officers of the forces operating in western Guatemala blamed guerrilla groups for the massacre.

Managua: Two leading rebels have been killed in clashes with Government troops in the mountainous north of Nicaragua in the last few days, according to the Interior Ministry.

A communiqué, which described the rebels as belonging to "counter-revolutionary bands", said that a total of three were killed in the clashes near Ayapal, 120 miles north of Managua.

The senior rebels who died were Wilfredo Páez, who was accused of killing 11 people in earlier incidents, and Guadalupe González, who was known as Ramón.

Stockholm: Mr Ola Ullsten, the Swedish Foreign Minister, criticized the United States today for supporting the Government of El Salvador.

Mr Ullsten said that America should use its influence to persuade the Salvadoran Government to respond to a United Nations General Assembly resolution, which called on the parties in the El Salvador conflict to negotiate.

San Salvador: Two United States Congressmen have arrived in El Salvador on a mission aimed at preventing Washington's involvement in what one of them called "a Vietnam situation".

Mr Tom Harkin and Mr James Oberstar, both Democrats, said they would be joined by Mr James Coyne, a Republican, today.

A SMALL INDUCEMENT TO ENCOURAGE YOU TO MAKE A BIG DISCOVERY.

Until now, low-tar cigarettes have not only lacked taste they've also lacked a certain *je ne sais quoi*.

And that's despite all the promises to the contrary.

FREE PACK!

FOR EVERY 10 IN-PACK COUPONS.

So convincing you that du Maurier low tar is the cigarette you've been waiting for is not going to be easy.

which only leaves us one option: To make you a special introductory double offer you'll find difficult to refuse.

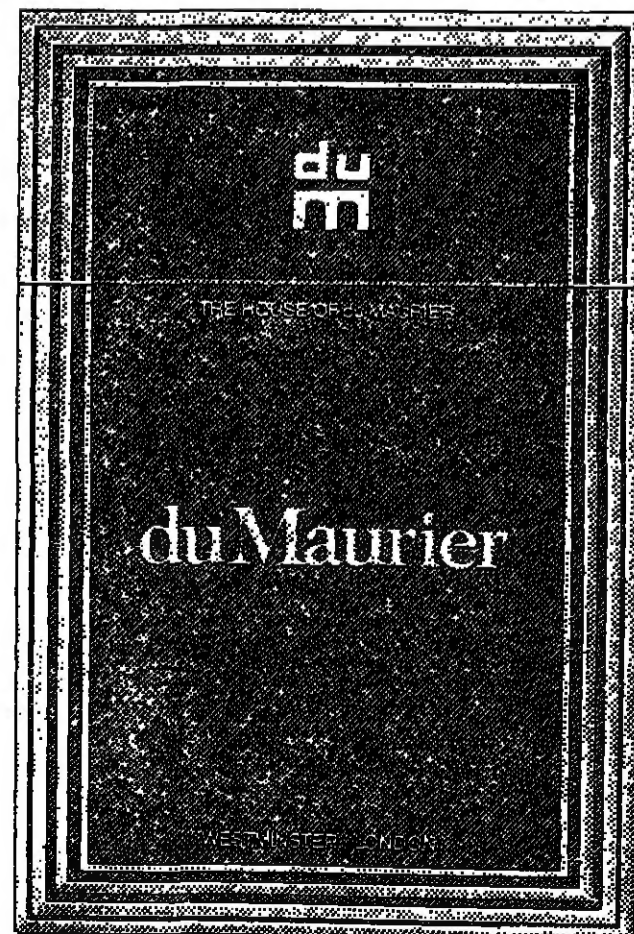
3p off your next pack. Or, in exchange for 10 in-pack coupons, a completely free pack.

Is that a tempting enough offer to give du Maurier low tar a try?

We hope it is. Because for the very first time you'll discover a low tar cigarette that really does have more than mere taste.

Now isn't that a discovery worth making?

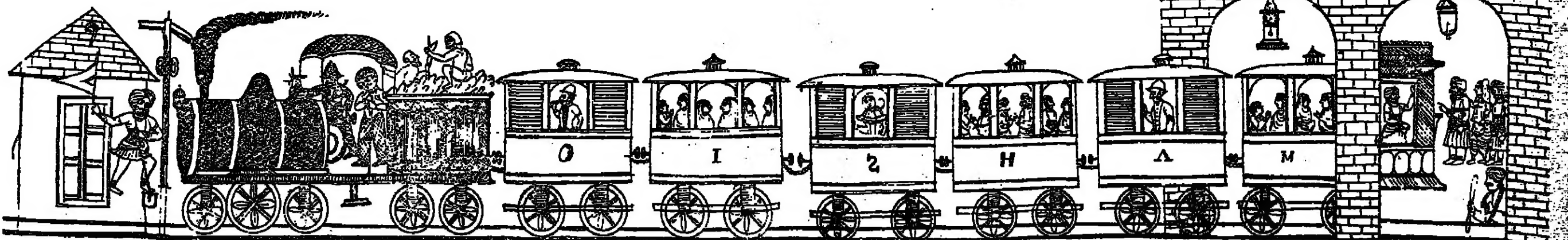
Discover du Maurier.



Discover Low Tar.

LOW TAR Manufacturer's estimate

**DANGER: H.M. Government Health Departments' WARNING:
THINK ABOUT THE HEALTH RISKS BEFORE SMOKING.**



Sikh woodcut of a railway train c. 1870. The engine is evidently a wood-burner. From *Railways of the Raj* by Michael Satow & Ray Desmond (foreword by Paul Theroux) (Scolar, £7.50)

A goodly prince

Francis I
By R. J. Knecht
(Cambridge, £25)

Travellers to the Loire valley are beguiled at every château and Syndicat d'Initiative by a formidable iconography of French history's women: Joan of Arc, of whose appearance no certain record survives; demure Agnes Sorel, left breast plopping free; Anne of Brittany, stolid queen to successive brother-kings; Reine Claude, dead at 24 but immortalized in a beautiful green-gage-plum with a blue-white bloom; and, most seductive and treacherous of all, power-hungress beneath the sickle moon and twice her royal lover's age, Diane de Poitiers. A cool team.

Only one man comes near to matching *les dames de Touraine*, and his image of the crowned salamander in flames is unforgotten stamped in relief all over the oak doors, beamed ceilings, vast chimneys and barrel-vaulted guardrooms of the region: one or two even curl out of the stone itself to peer at the weathered cherub of some forgotten entertainment or wild boar petrified in the chase. Lest the visitor of that time or this should ever miss the point, the supposedly indestructible salamander frequently alternates with a firmly incised and elaborate capital letter F. It is the mark of King Francis I (1494-1547), *Francis premier*, the French Henry VIII, centuries later the promise of a villain of Hugo's *Le roi s'amuse* and the model, therefore, for the Duke in Verdi's *Rigoletto*.

We have a very good idea what Francis looked like, too, because he was painted by Jean Clouet, the Holbein of the Valois Court, and described by many, including Edward Hall:

a goodly prince, stately of countenance, merry of cheer, brown coloured, eyes high, nose, big, tipped, fair breasted and shoulders, small legs and long feet.

Impeccable reporting from 1542. Yet, perhaps the French King best known outside France between Saint Louis and Louis XIV, Francis I has become both simplified and dimmed in modern times. Until Desmond Seward's illustrated *Rainbird: essai Prince de la Renaissance* (1973) there was no modern life in English, and until now no full-scale scholarly biography at all. This gap is superbly filled by R. J. Knecht's new book. *Francis I* is vigorous, exhaustive, much rarer in a work of this range and scale — particularly well measured and shaped. Commanding a huge personal, social, political, cultural, fiscal and economic territory not to mention endless alliances, progresses, feints and bewilderingly fast reversals of fortune, it is a

model of what a dense historical biography should be.

Francis emerges as King of France at a time when the men who lived there were uncertain where France ended or began, and as Protector of the Faith when subjects and rulers alike took time to decide what was heresy and what was faith reborn. Supremely secular in most respects, he brought in the Muslim Ottoman Turks to check Imperial and Papal power, but he too was burning Calvin's *Institutes* before he died. Wildly extravagant in pursuit of war, he was obsessed by the threat of encirclement and with his dynastic right to the Duchy of Milan, the window on the whole of Italy and points East; it very nearly ruined him. The flames through which the salamander held firm were those of rebellion, military catastrophe and humiliation at the hands of the Emperor Charles V.

He patronized the new printing and collected paintings, manuscripts and books. He courted Erasmus, Leonardo and Cellini. Fontainebleau, said Vasari, was "a new kind of Rome". Perhaps a rather Italian sort of complacency, that. But his reign, so the great staircase and the loggias of Blois, and vast incomparable,



haunted Chambord, that simple forest hunting lodge for a few friends and their ladies, with a miniature city bristling along the sky. Under Francis, too, Cartier went to Canada and Verrazano discovered New York. "The people," he wrote back to his patron, "were dressed in birds' feathers of various colours, and they came towards us joyfully uttering loud cries of wonderment." Still, he is still, do. Francis was charming, ruthless, insolent and shy; accessible to all except in time of plague and heartily thorough, not to say rough, in everything he undertook. Not so smart as Henry VIII and lacking the statesmanship of Charles, he surprised us by emerging from this splendid book as a nicer man than either.

Michael Ratcliffe

Nobel pilgrimage through the moral desert

Auto-da-Fé
By Elias Canetti
(Cape, £7.95)

Auto-da-Fé first came out in Germany in 1935 as *Die Blendung* (i.e. *blinding or bedazzlement*). This translation by C. V. Wedgwood ("under the personal supervision of the author") was published in 1946 and has been reissued several times; on this occasion to celebrate Canetti's Nobel prize. The author was born in Bulgaria in a community of Ladino-speaking Jews (Ladino, I gather, standing to Spanish much as Yiddish does to German). He grew up and studied in Vienna for the most part but settled in this country for good in 1938.

Despite these vicissitudes of language, nationality, and passing time this is an entirely distinct and coherent book. The translation conveys a remarkable forcefulness of utterance. Although not unrecognizable in type, *Auto-da-Fé* is not exactly like anything else.

It recounts the last painful months in the life of Peter Kien (not "Klein" as the more than usually incompetent blurb-writer informs us), the world's greatest sinologue, an inhumanly hermetic scholar, who lives in and for his library of twenty-five thousand books, whose purchase has just about used up his inherited fortune. A momentary display of pretended reverence for books by his humiliated housekeeper leads him to marry her. She soon has him dominated: confined to a bit of one room, unfed, in the end beaten and thrown out into the street. There he falls in with a dwarf, Fischerle, who sets up an elaborate scheme to rob him of what is left of his money. The even more repellent caretaker of his apartment building comes in a way to his aid as does Kien's brother, Albin. He goes up in smoke with his library.

The book has been compared to Joyce's *Ulysses* and the novels of Kafka. It has something in common with

them: a large, phantasmagoric Nighttown section in the middle like *Ulysses*, an absurd world presented in plain language as in Kafka. But the differences are great. Bloom and Dedalus are acceptably real human beings; Canetti's monsters are grotesque, nihilistic humours. Kafka's tone is anxious, apprehensive, bemused; Canetti's is exasperated, angry, impatient. It accords well with his somewhat congested appearance on the back of the jacket, where the aggressive slope of his moustache seems to reflect the accumulated diet of worst within, unrelieved by going out of doors.

A better comparison would be with such a more or less post-expressionist work as Brecht's and Weill's *City of Mahagonny*. In both human beings are represented as grotesque and vile. But Dr Kien is not the crushed soul of expressionism proper, nor is there any discernible political aspect to *Auto-da-Fé* as there is to the work of

writers like Brecht and Toller. One paragraph, near the end, might suggest otherwise. It begins "we wage the so-called war of existence for the destruction of the mass-soul in ourselves, no less than for hunger and love". This is more like Heideggerian metaphysics than anything political.

It has been said that *Auto-da-Fé* alludes somehow to the rise of fascism. If it does then so does any other novel about Europe between the wars with some very nasty people in it. In fact it is more like Swift, rearranged for the culture that gave us the Thirty Years' War, a defiance of the human experiment delivered in the peremptory tones of a *Geliebter*: "Zis, Her, Gott, is completely unacceptable. It is an arduous book to read, for all the exact staidness of its prose and the small oases of grim humour with which, one's pilgrimage through the moral desert is relieved.

Anthony Quinton

Bring back philosophy, king of sciences

Thoughts and Thinkers
By Anthony Quinton
(Duckworth, £28)

Anthony Quinton takes a grim view of his fellow professionals. The theme of this combined collection of articles is that too many modern philosophers have chosen to be large fish in small ponds, complacent about the range of their studies, contemptuous of their intellectual predecessors and proud of their practical irrelevance. Once upon a time philosophers happily combined the scientific investigation of abstract categories with the near-religious concern for the nature of the universe and the destiny of mankind. Philosophy did not have to be a full-time job. Newman and John Stuart Mill played

national politics; Anselm worked out his "ontological proof" between sermons as Archbishop of Canterbury. "Nowadays," Mr. Quinton mourns, "there are no serious philosophers who are not looking forward to the pension to which their involvement with the subject entitles them. They write almost exclusively for one another. Even when a politician or imaginative writer does show a concern for broadly philosophical issues their work will reveal no sign of exposure to any current professional debate.

The blame for this deadening state of affairs is put at the door of that ruling troika of twentieth-century philosophy in Britain, the Stalin-like figure of Wittgenstein, his Lenin, G. E. Moore, and the Trotsky-Bertrand Russell. Quinton argues that Moore "through sheer lack

of intellectual vitality" did not even see the dangers of restricting ethics to the trivial rules of inter-personal obligations. Wittgenstein was a man of almost Tolstoyan moral sensibility who nonetheless cut off philosophy from life "by a self-mutilating effort of will". Russell the politician blustered about the need for new moral values while denying in his philosophical writings that any moral value could be known.

Where the leaders led disciples followed — and all the more fervently. The first few were able to cut broad swathes through long-tangled logical confusions. The many that came later cut increasingly narrow paths to increasingly dead ends. Moral philosophy, the extraordinary tenacious influence of Moore — suffered more dangerous dam-

age than did other disciplines.

Quinton's remedy is a rehabilitation of the "evolutionary philosophers" W. K. Clifford and T. H. Huxley, in fact of Victorian philosophy generally. He sees the fashionable dismissal of most of our philosophical history (following Wittgenstein's remark that he couldn't read Hume because there were simply too many mistakes) as dangerous, and indeed linked to the perils of overspecialization. Backing up this twin call for change, Quinton has selected articles for this collection that range from a cool expose of the phoney originality of Marshall McLuhan to high praise for the classification system of the *Encyclopaedia Britannica*.

Peter Stothard

Insight into the crime of Glencoe

Massacre
The Story of Glencoe
By Magnus Linklater
(Collins, £7.95)

The Massacre of Glencoe was no more a blood feud between neighbouring and rival tribes than was Bloody Sunday in Derry a clash of opposing religious sects. Higher powers were at work; the Campbells who slaughtered 38 MacDonalds that bitter February morning in 1692 wore the uniform of King Billy's redcoats.

Like Derry, another of William of Orange's legacies,

Glencoe had its Wiggery-style inquiry, which failed to lay blame at any particular door. Magnus Linklater, son of Eric, is a *Sunday Times* journalist, and he employs that paper's nose-to-the-ground style of investigation to follow the trail of responsibility all the way up to the king.

The party is typically indistinct, as it will be when the recent history of Ulster comes to be written from the viewpoint of decent distance. William signed an order saying that if "that tribe (MacDonalds) can be well separated from the rest, it

will be a proper vindication of the public justice to exterminate that sort of thieves." If he read it, he may not have understood its implications, and he may have forgotten that the once-Jacobite MacDonalds had recently signed an oath of loyalty to him.

Sir John Hill, governor of Inverlochy, who signed the immediate order, claimed his officers had exceeded their authority, and that he had merely obeyed the ultimate authority of the throne. It was a defence more readily accepted then than at Nuremberg 250 years later.

What a stir Linklater would have caused had he published in 1692, when it was only by another piece of contemporary journalistic ferreting that the crime was unmasked at all. Who was to blame hardly seems to matter now; Glencoe's import is that it was the starting pistol for two centuries of systematic destruction of the Highlands and the old feudal clan system, a process that is not yet ended. For the historical perspective there is still no better account than John Prebble's trilogy *Fire and Sword*.

Alan Hamilton

Dame's delight in literature

In Defence of the Imagination
By Helen Gardner
(Oxford, £12.50)

We are agreed, are we not, that what matters are the text and the reader, not the author. The only point of producing a play by Shakespeare is to enable a director to impose his new overall conception on the archaic text and the mechanical art of the actors. It is bourgeois sentimentality to read the literature of the past unless we can discover modern relevance in it. That is why on the whole contemporary literature is better than old books, because it is more relevant.

Since you ask, no; we are jolly well not all agreed to those propositions. But they have a strong grip on the English trade, many of whose professionals have gone whoring after Structuralist gods in clatria — (Oops, apostrophe) — in liturgies that are impenetrable by profane outsiders. Professional historians, archaeologists, musicologists, and art-historians produce work that can be read with pleasure by amateurs. But the two disciplines that are of central concern to all educated men and women, philosophy and literature, seem to have retreated into private concrete bunkers where outsiders are not welcome. And now at last, thank Chaucer and Shakespeare, thank Aristotle and Hobbes, thank them all, here comes our most distinguished literary academic to perform the venerable but therapeutic function of pointing out that the Emperor's new suit looks a bit drafty.

Most of Dame Helen's book is devoted to the distasteful but necessary task of killing contemporary sacred cows. What matters about books are their texts and their authors. It is crass and philistine to pretend to find the "real man" or the "inner life" of somebody by deliberately ignoring what he wrote. Extravagant notions by trendy directors may produce sensational happenings on the

stage for the press and other theatrical groupies; but they smother the real drama. An extreme and peculiarly daft form of "reader-orientated criticism" reduces Donne's last sermon to "a self-consuming artifact". If so, the Bible is the most self-consuming artifact of all. Dame Helen deals with them all with style and relish, for instance reducing Frank Kermode's dotty obsession with narrative to a heap of cardboard ruins.

Her last chapter, *Apologia Pro Vita Mea*, is unnecessary, but fun. Few of our contemporaries need an *Apologia* for their lives less than she does. It has been a triumphal celebration of the central moral importance of literature from Donne to Eliot. We are all lucky to be able to spend our lives in the company of our betters: the poets, dramatists, novelists, and other makers who are the enrichers of this ugly world. And Helen Gardner is of their company.

Philip Howard

Fiction

An Unsuitable Attachment
By Barbara Pym
(Macmillan, £6.95)

Somewhere between Trollope and E. F. Benson's maliciously well-spirited Rye lies the domain of Barbara Pym. Dowagers descend on fêtes in a fine flush of patronage unbearably self-righteous; matrons gently agonize over cats and unmarried sisters; not-so-young bachelors court women of propriety and property. The slight, elegantly constructed plots are varnished with a wit which is always acute, never vicious. Miss Pym's world is small, but it is all her own and perfectly comprehended.

As one of her most ardent supporters, Philip Larkin deserves praise for a foreword which points as clearly to the flaws as the virtues of her seventh novel. Rejected in 1963, it marked the beginning of 14 years of wounding obscurity before Miss Pym was rediscovered and awarded the final accolade of an appearance on Desert Island Discs. Set in a London parish, this is the most church-oriented of her novels, and by no means the best. The attachment is between Ianthe, a shy spinster of more good-will than sense, and her handsome but impetuous assistant at the local library. Their curious romance is so delicately described as to become insubstantial, but Miss Pym's splendidly acute observation of the ridiculous being reserved for her minor characters. "I feel somehow that I can't reach Faustina as I've reached other cats," frets the vicar's wife, while her hus-

band contemplates a heroic fish-and-chip shop. Less happy are the frequent authorial interjections of a mildly homiletic nature. We are told that the caring visit matters more to the sick than the bringing of gifts and heaven help us, that "the right old-fashioned ideas about men and their work". If a comparatively slight addition to the Pym tiara, the novel is studded with sufficient wit to delight the faithful, who will particularly relish a deliciously funny account of the parochial expedition to Rome.

A Pale View of Hills by Kazuo Ishiguro (Faber, £6.25) is a first novel of grace, subtlety and accomplishment. The story, which is set in England, is haunted by the recent suicide of her daughter, Keiko. Evading the present, she looks back to the year of Keiko's birth in a wasteland east of bombed Nagasaki. To the wasteland come Mariko and her mother Sachiko, who is prepared to sacrifice her daughter's happiness in order to start a new life in America with the lover Mariko hates. Sachiko readily admits to her egocentricity and speaks against the folly of sentimental attachments as she fastidiously drowns Mariko's pet kittens before they leave. In retrospect, Sachiko's unwillingly perceived analogy to her treatment of Keiko. The rigid distinctions between the wicked and the virtuous mother blur and sharpen to her new understanding of Sachiko as the mirror-image she chose not to recognize.

A Mother and Two Daughters by Gill Godwin (Heinemann, £7.95) starts well with an elegantly barbed description of aging American partygoers staving off time with paint and prattle. Noll Strickland, the observer, is forced

out of her comfortable detachment when her husband dies of a heart-attack on the day she is leaving. Nell copes with the emotional demands of her two daughters. Had Miss Godwin stayed with Nell, the strongest and most interesting of her characters, she could have written a novel.

In pursuing the sexual and intellectual evolution of Nell's tresomely narcissistic daughters, she sinks to the level of a soap-opera, and has as much style as a wasp-rag. With guilty smiles fitting about like bats, chins tilting defiantly and a new lover coming on as "an extremely warm and vital man", Miss Godwin would do well to swallow her pride and buy a Thesaurus.

Less pretentious and a lot more fun is James Lipton's *Mirrors* (New English Library, £6.95), a fast-paced and highly professional show-business novel which chronicles the struggle of a young diabetic dancer to become a Broadway dancer. The subject may be a little hackneyed, but Lipton's approach is bouncy and realistic enough to make your muscles ache in sympathy with the gypsies of Broadway.

Miranda Seymour

Crime

Murder Unprompted
By Simon Brett
(Gollancz, £5.95)

Hail (moderately) the unmurder story. Here is a further instalment in the life of Charles Paris, perpetually

struggling actor and occasional happenstance sleuth, and it is only on Page 109 out of 160 in this cheerful and informative account of what happens when a new, teetering play gets a West end transfer that we read "this dramatic detective instance was stirring" and only on Page 94 was the fatal shot fired. Yet the book would have been the lesser had it been just the story of how, for once, Charles Paris gets to play the lead and has a short-lived, dying-fall triumph.

Why do we need murder in a book like this? Margery Allingham said once that "the essential killing is, at worst, a status sign, an indication that the theme in hand is of importance" and, to a slight extent, the presence of even so perfunctory a death in Simon Brett's story does enhance his portrait of a man just surviving, a sketch that gives the book an underlying, something extra to make it more satisfying than it might have been.

Were the book only the story of Charles Paris's near success it would, I suspect, fail particularly to involve its readers. The hunt for the murderer in the final pages adds to the emotional involvement we have yielded to an intellectual involvement, a challenge at least to hit on the killer before all is revealed, even if we no longer get the battle of wits of the old-style mystery novel in which it would have been grossly cheating not to have devoted every page to the murder in hand. So let us hope the engaging Paris keeps his detective instinct always at least dormant while he reveals to us yet other aspects of the actor's world.

An Uprush of Mayhem, by Jack Scott (Collins, £6.50). Keep obbo on Inspector

its own importing: there was no British Council. Not surprisingly there was confusion. Euphoric translation meant that the second of Spence's trio, Lu Xun (0.1881) read Huxley's *Evolution and Ethics* as a schoolboy and then galloped through Rider Haggard, Dumas, and the Sherlock Holmes stories. Others mixed Tolstoy and Jules Verne. When Ibsen's *A Doll's House* came out progressive Chinese women rushed to call their daughters Nora.

Of all these writers, "sardonic, uncompromising and perceptive" Lu Xun was probably the best; certainly the most clear-sighted and unfailingly acute in his view of the Chinese. He died in 1936 and has since been cherished as a national hero in the new China, though one can hardly imagine a man who would have been more



Listening, drawing by Feng Zikai

lacerating in his comments on Maoist China.

Ding Ling (b.1905) makes the third of Spence's trio: not at all simply as a representative woman. Her life, with its hopes, its disappointments, its courage and suffering, its hesitation and evasions, is a representative mirror for the whole period. She was sucked in by the leftist tide, ran into trouble with Mao in Yan'an and only enjoyed a brief respite in the early 1950s before being cast out as a "rightist" in 1958. At 77, she is now happily holed up in the calmer waters of Deng Xiaoping's China. But what must she be thinking of the new young writers, once again suffering from the old and traditionally Chinese—prescriptions?

Aside from the three main figures, many others come fully alive, thanks to Spence's keen understanding. Xu Zhimo, the romantic poet, was lucky in basking in the warm curiosity of Bloomsbury. Cambridge Apostles. He was a rare anti-communist. Wen Yiduo, a non-political academic, did not escape murder at the hands of Chiang's secret police in wartime west China. Lao She, who perished in the cultural revolution, gets a splendid appraisal. Not many splendours among all these miseries, but much courage and sacrifice, no less deservedly recorded.

Richard Harris

Rosher. He has moved from caricature to character. This affair — sex-murder — plus country-house robbery, gives him fine scope.

Blayde, R.I.P., by John Wainwright (Faber, £5.95). The new life of a policeman, no less, from recruit to Chief Super, and brought to life, too, from Page 1 to close-packed Page 251.

Here Lies Gloria Mundy, by Gladys Mitchell (Macmillan, £6.95). Enter unique Gladys Mitchell. Land where past meets present and there is always murder and Dame Beatrice Bradley to unravel all.

The Mischief Makers, by William Haggard (Hodder & Stoughton, £6.50). What was behind Brixton? Becoming idiosyncratic by the book, Haggard has an answer, and on the way bleeding-heart are blasted, pinkos pulverised.

Enter A Gentlewoman, by Sara Woods (Macmillan, £5.95). Infinitely reliable Woods with another lead. "Exceptional depravity" in the bedroom of who's lying? And, worry not, permissiveness is kept in place.

Masterstroke, by Tim Heald (Hutchinson, £6.95). The Umpteenth Man at Oxford? Heald whisks us through a pretty imbroglio with every collegiate expectation lightly laid on.

Corridors of Death, by Ruth Dudley Edwards (Quarant Crime, £6.50). A fine peer into the 'Yes, Minister' world, interesting and thoughtful. The murder story less successful, alas, recounted rather than told.

H. R. F. Keating

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MR MUGABE CRACKS THE WHIP

It is hardly surprising that Mr Mugabe should have found it necessary to dismiss Mr Nkomo from his Government. The finding of a huge cache of buried arms, enough to equip a brigade — on property controlled by Mr Nkomo's Patriotic Front was provocative enough. The behaviour of Mr Nkomo himself was unhelpful: he has denied plotting against the Government but offered no explanation for the presence of the arms or cooperation to the security forces searching for them. The law will take its course, Mr Mugabe said. The unresolved but important question is to what degree Mr Nkomo is the unchallenged leader of the Ndebele people and whether this presages conflict between the Ndebele and the majority Shona ranged behind Mr Mugabe.

This, the latest of a series of trials that has beset the infant Zimbabwe, has been greeted with something like relief by the whites of South Africa. It is being taken as proving two of their dearly-held axioms: that black governments will always make a mess of things, and that tribal divisions are ineradicable and will always lead to conflict. Britain and the West in general have always held a more hopeful view of Mr Mugabe's performance and no doubt Lord Carrington, when he visits Salisbury next week, will convey the British Government's continuing hopes.

Mr Mugabe's biggest suc-

cess so far was to end the fighting that broke out a year ago between the troops of what had been the two rival guerrilla armies, Zippa of Mr Nkomo and Zanla of Mr Mugabe. He managed to make them into one army and to reduce it to manageable size. That some distrust remained was shown by the 20 per cent increase he later ordered in the secret police: he felt the ordinary police and army were infiltrated by the South Africans, and there was also the matter of the missing Zippa arms.

Apart from the threat of tribal war, Mr Mugabe faces the crucial test of whether his Government can succeed in keeping Zimbabwe prosperous. He has been handicapped by the massive outflow of skilled whites; this, however, was to some degree inevitable and can be overcome. (The November figures were down). He has also offended orthodox economic theory by introducing an unjustifiably high minimum wage and by doctrinaire interference with the large-scale farming that paid such big dividends when Zimbabwe was Rhodesia. Exports are down but a huge maize harvest this year should allow Mr Mugabe some leeway.

The continued detention — and alleged mistreatment — of a white Member of Parliament, Mr Wally Stuttaford, together with more than ten other whites has aroused disquiet, but apart from that Mr Mugabe has demonstrated a greater respect for due process and the rule of law than most other black

African governments — and certainly more than Mr Ian Smith's regime. The fact that he did not interfere when one of his Ministers was charged with shooting a white farmer gained him early credit.

His undisguised Marxism arouses concern in some quarters. However, he has shown a degree of pragmatism and for all his strongly anti-apartheid speeches to the Organization of African Unity and elsewhere, a recognition of his country's economic bondage to South Africa. The Pretoria Government rubbed this in by refusing cooperation at the beginning, but there is now a degree of working together.

Another controversial matter is his oft-expressed desire for a one-party state. On this he told *The Times* in an interview a few weeks ago that it was not a matter to be rushed into; that all shades of opinion needed to be sheltered under the one umbrella; and that opportunities needed to be given for the expression of different viewpoints. These admirable sentiments and the general African bias against organized party political opposition, do not still fears about the dangers of one-party rule leading to tyranny.

Certainly, a single party which excluded so important a section of the population as the Ndebele would be unacceptable. The way in which Mr Mugabe overcomes the divisiveness of Zimbabwean society — made dramatically apparent by recent events — will be the final measure of the success of his government.

THE GOOD FORM OF PLAIN WORDS

The question of administrative forms does not normally inflame the imagination of academic or journalist commentators. They are however a crucial instrument in government's relations with the governed. A good form enables information of wide application to be conveyed more accurately, more concisely and more cheaply than any other means. Some two thousand million forms and leaflets gush forth from Whitehall each year, 36 for every man, woman and child in the kingdom. Grants, benefits, taxes, and information on a myriad aspects of government activity are transmitted to and from the citizen in this way. To the average Briton the central government manifests itself not as devoted individual civil servants but more often as this ocean of paper. It is therefore extremely important that the paper face of government be acceptable.

The White Paper on Administrative Forms in Government issued yesterday sets out the results of a survey of the flow of forms from Whitehall and suggests mechanisms to control it and make it more effective. Techniques for monitoring costs, design and drafting are to be established both within departments and centrally through the new Management and Personnel Office — the administrative ramp of the former Civil Service Department which here makes an encouraging public bow.

The scope for financial savings is striking. It is estimated that the production cost alone is at least £200 million a year, and the staff costs in processing them run to many times that. It is

difficult, and depressing, to try to assess the community cost in filling in forms; but those from the DHSS are assessed at over £200 million a year, so the total must run above a billion. Clearly bad and unnecessary forms waste a great deal of money and savings of a few per cent in efficiency are well worth having (equalling and potentially obviating some of the more devastating cuts intended for higher education, for example).

More important than the particular economies are the administrative principles behind the exercise. First is the commendable insistence that the needs of the consumer be elevated in the minds of the producer of forms. Too often hitherto they have been drafted in Whitehall with little consultation either with the customer public or even with the local civil servants who have to deal with costly confusions arising from impenetrably legalistic prose and sloppy lay-out. Apparently the officials themselves sometimes do not understand the forms they send out and error rates of over 30 per cent, either by staff or public, are common. Henceforward we are promised more prior costing and pilot-testing of new forms, and senior civil servants will be encouraged to go out and consult the sharp end of government.

At the heart of this and the other related scrutinies of civil service operations initiated by Sir Derek Rayner since he entered government in 1979 is a theme which is both obvious and yet, compared to past British practice, revolutionary: that good government means good

administration, and that therefore efficient policy implementation is as important as policy formulation. Most of the present generation of top mandarins have advanced in a tradition which emphasizes skills at policy advice to ministers rather than administrative management. Indeed they must remain heavily concerned with policy formulation since that is what ministers want. But the private citizen or businessman, who pays heavily for his bureaucracy, also wants good administration. Permanent secretaries must now place increased emphasis on this, in their training programmes, in promotion criteria, and in themselves setting an example to line management.

There are already encouraging signs of change. Sir Derek has sensibly worked through the civil service rather than against it, using teams of civil servants to conduct the surveys behind this white paper. Some departments are already setting a good example: notably the excellently led Department of Health and Social Security and even the oft-maligned Inland Revenue and Customs and Excise. A remarkable opportunity to advance this cause is fact ahead of the Prime Minister and the Minister for the Civil Service, Baroness Young, who have so far given Sir Derek worthy support. Several permanent secretaries retire soon. Mrs Thatcher should make it clear that in filling these vacancies, excellence in administering citizens and civil servants will be as important a qualification as skill in manipulating ministers. Good government should be good for all of us.

one false and questionable assumption. The false assumption is that a child's education begins when he first sends him to school, the function of the school being to educate him. The questionable assumption is that it is desirable that local education authorities should have a monopoly in the business of contributing schools to the national schools system.

In fact, of course, education begins at birth and it is those who surround and influence the child in his earliest years who control the extent to which he either coheres with the general community or stands off from it. Since it is the all too common experience of those who work in schools that the values presented to the child by the parents may not agree with the values the school tries to present and that, where the two conflict, it is the parental values which usually prevail, why not give the parents as wide a choice as possible of schools for their children?

The proposition that it is not possible for a population containing elements of different ethnic origins to achieve integration unless all their children attend common schools is not only untrue but is contradicted by the history of the British nation.

Yours faithfully,
MICHAEL ADAMS,
Hazelhurst
Dymock,
Gloucestershire.

Ethnic schooling

From Mr Michael Adams
Sir, Councillor Hilary Benn (February 12) based his letter on

Slaughter of animals

From Dr Sydney Torrance

Sir, I wish to reply to certain aspects of the recent report (February 11) by Mr John Young, your Agricultural Correspondent, in which he deals with the slaughter of animals by religious methods.

Mr Young assumes that animals slaughtered without pre-stunning must suffer a period of pain. This is simply not true of animals killed by the method of *shechita*. The Shochet, who carries out the slaughter, is a man of deep religious sensibilities, who has received a very lengthy period of training, which has been approved by a rabbinical commission after a rigorous examination, and who is under constant expert supervision. He uses specially designed knives sharpened to the highest possible degree to ensure that no pain is inflicted on the animal.

This method of slaughter produces a very rapid and substantial drop in blood pressure, which results in almost instantaneous unconsciousness, death then rapidly supervening. A large number of independent, and unbiased scientific physiologists, including such eminent names as Lord Horder, Sir C. A. Lovett Evans and Leonard Hill, as well as Professor Harold Burrow, Emeritus Professor of Veterinary Medicine, and many others, have stated categorically

Passing judgment on El Salvador

From Mrs Katharine Thwaites

Sir, You do not give, nor is it easy to see, any hard evidence to support either your assumption (leading article, February 8) that Marxist guerrillas would be willing to "negotiate" for any price less than the complete overthrow in El Salvador or that it is unquestionably the official regime which is responsible for the "cold-blooded killing of thousands of people" in that country.

To begin with it is surely unjust not to mention that, in time of war no government, however democratically inclined, is in a position to attend to domestic reforms or to allow its people all those "human rights" they could expect to enjoy in peacetime. But more importantly you seem not to attach any significance to the undoubted fact that American participation in the war is by far the greatest obstacle to a guerrilla victory — the possibility of which you rightly deplore — and that therefore the single most important strategic aim of those who support the guerrillas must be to limit Washington's aid to the Salvadorean Government.

Apart from the use of violence, which is being stepped up with what degree of success, your article makes clear the only way to bring pressure to bear on a democratic administration such as exists in Washington is through the manipulation of public opinion. And so we should not be surprised to find, indeed in the light of experience, we should expect to find, the mounting of massive propaganda campaigns the purpose of which is to blacken the reputation of the regime in El

Salvador as totally to discredit anyone who comes to its aid.

Of course it would be foolish to discount the probability that the Salvadorean Government's hands are anything but clean and consequently that enemy propaganda may have plenty to build on, but it is even more foolish to leave out of account the greater evil with which that government has to contend. To concentrate one-sidedly on the misdoings of the regime in El Salvador is to behave like the onlooker who, not content with excusing himself from defending a man who is violently attacked in the street on the ground that the victim allegedly beats his wife on Saturday nights, goes on to hurl abuse at the unfortunate fellow because he is back at his assailant below the belt.

Constant emphasis on the undoubted shortcomings of "right wing" governments desperately struggling to establish law and order in the teeth of subversive and violent forces effectively supports those who make it their business to exploit the incredible occurrence of human injustice whenever it is to be found. And while the problem of dealing with this political evil, which is organized on a world-wide scale, may well seem to be insuperable, it is very certain that we shall not begin to find a solution unless we first bring ourselves to look it full in the face.

Yours faithfully,
KATHARINE THWAITES,
Kathorpe,
Winchester,
Hampshire,
February 9.

Law on contempt

From Mr R. C. Macdonald

Sir, May I, as a practising solicitor, accept the invitation in your leader (February 13) and show why so far as my profession is concerned, Lord Scarman's view is quite unacceptable?

It must be recognized, in the first place, that very great weight is placed upon a solicitor's undertaking both by the profession itself and by its controlling body, the Law Society. Unlike the protection of "privilege", which is the client's privilege and not his own, the undertaking is personal to the solicitor and fully binding on him. It is a matter of honour that he should not be subject to disciplinary action by the Law Society for having broken his undertaking. The Home Office has been entirely right to pursue the matter as a matter of fundamental principle is involved.

She will receive no sympathy from any practising member of her own profession for her action, nor will she deserve any, and she is subject to disciplinary action by the Law Society for having broken her undertaking. The Home Office has been entirely right to pursue the matter as a matter of fundamental principle is involved.

Yours faithfully,
R. C. MACDONALD,
Macdonald, Boag and Company,
30 Grove Road,
Sutton, Surrey.

Lead in petrol

From Mr Tony Durant, MP for Reading, North (Conservative)

Sir, Your leader of February 9 complains that the Government's action last May to reduce the level of lead in petrol from 0.45 grams per litre to 0.15 by 1985 was an "unsatisfactory compromise". In fact, of course, the Government chose the course of action that would make the biggest reduction in lead emission in the shortest possible time.

The letter of Sir Henry Yellowless, which you refer to, powerfully reinforced the case presented earlier to the Government by Professor Lawther's working party. This recommended that we should take steps to reduce people's exposure to lead in a number of areas, including water and paint as well as petrol. Far from covering up the evidence on petrol and ignoring it, the Government acted directly and speedily on it because of its deep concern at the trend of the scientific evidence, though further research was commissioned.

Setting the permitted lead content of petrol at 0.15 will reduce the annual emission level from about 7,000 tonnes to 2,400 tonnes, an immediate and dramatic cut in the risk our children will face.

But if the lead-free route had been chosen, the necessary period of transition — both to design and produce lead-free engines and for the new cars gradually to replace existing cars — would inevitably have resulted in higher lead levels. In fact, it has been calculated that it could be 25 years before the cumulative benefit of the lead-free approach could match that achieved by the much earlier and universal reduction to 0.15. Although the United States introduced lead-free petrol in 1974, only half the cars are currently able to use it. It is unlikely that lead-free petrol could come into use before

the end of the decade and it would take at least another 10 years for new cars capable of using lead-free petrol gradually to displace older cars. During the run-down period, therefore, some extra 80,000 tonnes of lead emissions would pollute the atmosphere.

Sir Henry Yellowless, in his letter, advised "that action should now be taken to reduce markedly the lead content of petrol in use in the United Kingdom". And that is what the Government has done.

Many of us who have campaigned for a number of years to reduce the lead in petrol welcomed this Government's initiative. We would, of course, like to go further, but we must bear in mind the fact that our car industry, along with others I will keep a watch on progress.

Yours faithfully,
TONY DURANT,
House of Commons.

Academic activity

From Dr A. T. Kuhn

Sir, I must vigorously repudiate Professor Morris's imputation to me (in his "open letter" printed in *The Times*, on February 5) of the opinion that most university academics are a bunch of layabouts. At no time have I ever suggested this, and that false assertion does all academics a great disservice.

It is true that academics enjoy a unique freedom from accountability in the way they spend their time. And some of them, as in every occupation, abuse this freedom. Their number is not large, but every honest academic (including the previous Vice-Chancellor of Cambridge in his valedictory speech) acknowledges their existence. Does Professor Morris, I wonder?

Yours faithfully,
ANSELM KUHN
Institute of Dental Surgery,
Eastman Dental Hospital,
256 Gray's Inn Road, WC1.

Amnesty's record

From Ms Janet Johnstone and Mr Peter Walker

Sir, Caroline Moorehead's article (February 9) about the appointment of Jeremy Thorpe as the new director of the British section of Amnesty International contains one or two doubly-silly inaccuracies concerning our fund-raising and membership.

Referring to last September's *The Secret Policeman's Other Ball*, Miss Moorehead writes that it "looked firmly set to bring its customary haul. Instead, mysteriously, possibly to the organization's internal disputes, no directing hand guided the venture, and virtually no money has since come its way".

On the contrary, it was pre-

cisely because of the success of its immediate predecessor, *The Secret Policeman's Ball*, which to date has grossed nearly £200,000, that we consciously embarked upon a much more professional approach to maximise the potential in other media on our latest show.

Our income from the show, together with a substantial advance from records and book, already exceeds £90,000 and some of this has been sensibly invested in a full-length feature film, now entirely paid for and wholly owned by Amnesty International.

The film has already acquired a major theatrical distributor for the United Kingdom and it is to be premiered next month. With worldwide video, theatrical, and television rights plus further

Preserving Cairo's Old City

From the Chairman of the World of Islam Festival Trust, and others

Sir, In December, 1980, a conference was called by the Egyptian authorities to discuss proposals submitted in a report by Unesco in the presence of a number of international scholars and representatives of archaeological and architectural organisations. The conference requirement arose out of the inclusion of "historic Cairo" in Unesco's World Heritage List as a result of Egyptian and international appreciation of the manifold problems which now beset the buildings and people of the city. Its future welfare thus officially becomes a matter of international concern and responsibility. At the end of the conference, the Egyptian authorities agreed to implement three recommendations immediately:

1. That a Cairo Conservative Agency should be established which would have the authority to carry out a programme of conservation and reconstruction with funds subscribed by the Government and international agencies.
2. That there would be an immediate five-year moratorium on all commercial building or demolition in the medieval area of the city.
3. That no reinforced concrete or Portland cement would be used in any restoration or reconstruction work undertaken within the area of "historic Cairo" without the specific approval of the conservation agency.

It was also agreed that an international advisory committee would be set up to assist the conservation agency and that ICCROM would be available to supply technical advice and other

assistance such as on-site training. Both the World Bank and USAID were represented at the conference and expressed interest in helping the project.

Progress in following up the results of the conference was frustrated by difficulties arising from administrative changes in Cairo. Now, however, under the new Minister of State for Culture, H. E. Mohamed Abdel Hamid Radwan, and the new head of the antiquities organisation, Dr Ahmed Kadry, it is anticipated that measures will be taken both constructive in themselves and calculated to encourage international support.

The Old City of Cairo contains the most important concentration of Islamic architecture anywhere in the world. Current neglect is leading to an ever more rapid erosion of these monuments through both natural and commercial pressures. It is recognition of the magnitude of the problems facing the authorities in Egypt which led to their requesting international assistance and cooperation in preserving "historic Cairo".

The signatories to this letter, who were present as guests of the Egyptian authorities at the 1980 conference, ask the favour of your support in drawing attention to the critical and urgent need for international participation in preserving a cultural heritage of the highest importance.

Yours faithfully,
HAROLD BEELEY,
BERNARD FEILDEN,
MICHAEL ROGERS,
ALISTAIR DUNCAN,
World of Islam Festival Trust,
33 Thurlow Place, SW7,
February 17.

Future of 'The Times'

From Lord Chitnis and Lord Young of Dartington

Sir, *The Times* is again in peril, and it is time for its readers to express their loyalty and their concern that the traditional character, editorial independence and integrity be maintained. The closure of *The Times*, even for a short period, would represent a loss to the country of an institution of irreplaceable value.

The future of a newspaper that depends so much on its readers cannot be left solely to proprietors and trades unions. The readers must have a voice. We are therefore calling for support for a body called Readers of *The Times*. Would anyone interested in saving *The Times* write to us at the address below?

Yours, etc,
CHITNIS,
YOUNG OF DARTINGTON,
9 Poland Street, W1,
February 16.

Gen Percival's shorts

From Major-General Sir Cecil Smith

Sir, It was surely unnecessary for Mr Anthony Kemp (article, February 15) to make derogatory remarks about General Percival's shorts.

From the photograph these garments seem to be the same length as those of other officers parading with him, and are in fact clearly of the regulation length of shorts worn by the British Army at this period. General Percival suffered sufficiently as the result of being G.O.C. in C. at the time of surrender of Singapore without his dress becoming, after his death, the subject of ill-informed criticism.

Yours faithfully,
CECIL M. SMITH,
Crosh, Southfield Place,
Surrey, Weybridge,
February 16.

A regular carry on

From Mrs Geraldine Lacey

Sir, Since the British supermarkets are suffering considerable inconvenience and expense in fighting the basket and trolley shoplifters, I wonder if they've considered adopting the system used in Brazil.

Virtually all the supermarkets here employ youngsters to carry the customers' goods from the check-out till to their cars or houses, if they live near by. The "carriers" use special trolleys for this purpose, thereby eliminating the need for any baskets or trolleys to leave the actual shop. They receive a minimum wage from the store and the customers supplement this with a small tip. It's an excellent system for all concerned. It provides much-needed employment, offers the customers a greatly appreciated service and solves the mysterious disappearance of baskets and trolleys. With the trolleys costing around £37 each it is arguable whether the Brazilian system would be more expensive to operate.

Yours faithfully,
GERALDINE LACEY,
As from: Rua Costa Rica,
Jardim America,
Sao Paulo, Brazil.

Aid to Somalia

From Mr Louis FitzGibbon

Sir, In a written parliamentary answer for February 11 it was stated that our aid to Somalia for 1981-82 amounts to £1.5m bilaterally, plus £3m for refugees, a total of £4.5m. If our total disbursements overseas amount to £220m, the sum being allocated to Somalia represents no more than 2.045 per cent. Further, it was said that the bilateral aid was not expected to be increased "in the coming year".

Somalia has the biggest refugee problem in Africa, while Somalia herself is one of the least-developed countries in the world. In those circumstances one can be excused from thinking that our contribution is miserly and certainly does not reflect the debt of honour owed to these people by reason of arbitrary boundaries drawn in the past.

I am sure I am not alone in suggesting that HM Government should examine its conscience in this matter, as it eventually did over the proposed cuts in the BBC external service in the Somali language. The Libya-Ethiopia-South Yemen alliance poses a grave threat to the whole Horn of Africa and Somalia needs every bit of help she can get. Surely we could do more?

Yours sincerely,
LOUIS FITZGIBBON,
Langstone Towers,
Langstone,
Havant,
Hampshire,
February 11.

Badge of faith

From the Reverend Canon E. G. Longman

Sir, What an appropriate choice of the seven sacraments as the theme for the Pope's visit to Britain. The title, "Defender of the Faith", proudly carried by the Pope, is a title inherited from Henry VIII, was given him by Pope Leo X in 1521 for his treatise, *Assertio Septem Sacramentorum* in defence of the seven sacraments.

Yours faithfully,
E. G. LONGMAN,
Yardley Vicarage,
Birmingham,
February 11.

Evolutionary dead-end?

From Sir Roland Penrose

Sir, May I be allowed to comment briefly on the dismay I felt, as presumably did many others, when confronted with the new stamp issued for our first-class inland mail. It is good that we should be reminded of great men, should be reminded of the overriding presence of her Majesty, but the ineptitude of the monochrome design is lamentable.

In the centre we find the hoary appearance of an aged Charles Darwin with the top of the impressive dome of his forehead sliced off and what remains covered with his signature, which is placed so as to invite its obliteration by postmarks. On either side of him creep in caricatures of the heads of two noble chelonians. One of them is apparently attempting to kiss Darwin on the mouth while the other, rearing up towards his left eye, has a diminutive profile of her Majesty, also in sepia, slipping backwards off its nose.

This almost unrecognisable profile of our Sovereign is effectively dwarfed by the price of this small piece of sticky paper placed on high in the opposite corner.

May we know, Sir, who is responsible for this pathetic jumble which in themselves should arouse respect and add to our national prestige, and can a way be found to stop the appalling deterioration in the design of our stamps and currency?

Yours faithfully,
ROLAND PENROSE,
Farley Farm,
Muddles Green,
Chiddingfold,
Near Lewes,
Sussex,
February 14.



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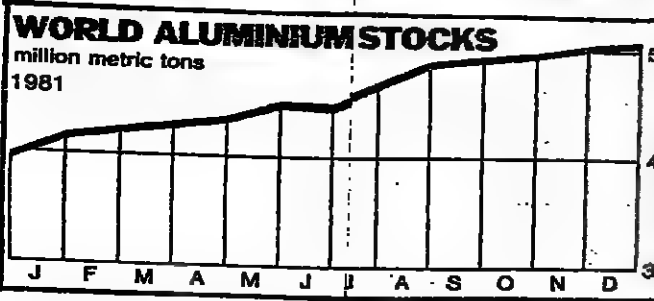
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BUSINESS NEWS

Global aluminium glut



World stocks of aluminium are continuing to rise in the face of a big slump in demand, one of the reasons behind the decision of British Aluminium to close its Invergoron plant in the Highlands. By the end of last year world stocks stood at 4,059,000 tonnes. Stocks of primary aluminium, which excludes scrap and finished goods, totalled 3,083,000 tonnes, a rise of over one million tonnes during the year.

Commons inquiry into money

The House of Commons' powerful Treasury and Civil Service Committee has decided to carry out an inquiry into the "international monetary system". As part of this inquiry, MPs are expected to look at the way the currency market has functioned under the system of floating exchange rates; the adequacy of world reserves; the role of the International Monetary Fund; and Special Drawing Rights, the IMF's own form of money. The all-party committee, chaired by the Conservative MP Mr Edward du Cann, may also find themselves examining the European Monetary System.

Receivers at Kitchen Queen

Kitchen Queen, the furniture group brought to the Stock Market by former stockbroker Hallday Simpson just under three years ago, but no longer publicly quoted, has gone into receivership. It will continue to trade while a buyer is sought. Kitchen Queen was sold to the Manchester businessman Mr Stephen Boler in June, 1980, for £2.1m.

BPC 'back to profit'

The British Printing Corporation is now "out of the terminal ward and restored to profitability," according to a report sent yesterday to shareholders and staff by chairman and chief executive Mr Robert Maxwell.

He estimated a loss of about £4m in 1981. £14m has been spent on closures and 2,500 redundancies.

MARKET SUMMARY

RHM shares sweetened

LONDON EXCHANGE

FT Index 563.6 rose 6.4
FT All Share 324.97 rose 1.77
Bargains 18,133

Ranks Hovis McDougall rose 1p to 65p last night amid reports that it had placed its 10.5 per cent stake in British Sugar which it acquired in a bid for last week.

RHM was unavailable for comment but shares of British Sugar rose 10p to 406p as it soon became clear that the door was open for a further bid by S. & W. Benson, which holds 40 per cent of British Sugar.

Ranks purchased its 6.3m British Sugar shares days after British Sugar had completed a similar dawn raid on Ranks netting 14.7 per cent of the shares for £22.5m. Ranks had earlier advanced from Benson's, 1p dealer at 127p.

Elsewhere, Inter City Investment Group, the East London rag trade company was the star turn, leaping 19 1/2p to 57p after confirmation that the Liechtenstein registered group Mean Investment had picked up 2.4m shares or 25.74 per cent of the equity.

This led to speculation of a reverse takeover which caught the jobbers on the hop. The company after denied it had received any takeover approach.

Last year Inter City produced losses of nearly £500,000, but at this level of capitalization it is more than £5m. However, it was enough to focus attention on another member of the rag trade, Goodman Bros, which jumped 10p to 23p, after 27p, in sympathy. Once again the group denied any takeover talks and said it was unable to explain the strength of the share price.

Equities recovered some of their lost ground, after the overnight rally on Wall Street with the FT Index closing 8.4 up at 563.6.

Gills continue to divorce themselves from the effects of higher interest rates in the United States, confirmed by Chase Manhattan raising its prime by 1/4 per cent to 17 per cent, with rise of 1/2 to 2 1/2 in active trade.

Associated Newspapers was a firm market jumping 7p to 193p. Brokers James Cape recommended it as a buy and are expected to release a bullish circular to that effect soon.

Moss Engineering, where Bowater the private civil engineering company holds about 14 per cent, jumped 6p to 109p on news of a £1m Saudi contract and a new finance director.

Among blue chips Bowater continued its steady rise with a further 15p to 260p amid huge news of a deal despite the absence of the long heralded dawn raid. It closed 2p dearer at 344p.

Head of next week's full year figures, where the market is anticipating profits of between £30m to £350m against £394m last year.

Wood Hall Trust slipped 2p to 21p as Elder Smith & Goldstone picked up a further 4.2m shares at 215p taking its stake to 2.9 per cent.

Huntley & Palmer rose 1p to 10p still hoping for the counter bid of 150p a share from the United States food giant Nabisco. Reports spread that a bid by Nabisco had already been cleared by the Office of Fair Trading.

Huntley denied any talks of a counter bid in opposition to the original one from Rowntree, while Nabisco Standard Brands maintained a firm no comment at its headquarters in New Jersey.

Equity turnover on February 16 was £120.242m (18,380 bargains).

Equities recovered some of their lost ground, after the overnight rally on Wall Street with the FT Index closing 8.4 up at 563.6.

US loan rates jump as Europe protests

From Nicholas Hirst, Washington, Feb 17

As Belgium Prime Minister Mr Wilfried Martens, President of the EEC, complained to the White House today about high United States interest rates, key banks raised the cost of money to the highest level since November.

Mr Martens, in Washington with Mr Leo Tindemans, the Belgian Foreign Minister, is conveying to President Reagan the concern of EEC countries that the estimated United States budget deficit of \$91,500m for 1983 will force up interest rates and block the modest recovery in European economies expected this year.

Wall Street has been as concerned as the Europeans that budget deficits will keep up the cost of money. Analysts said today that fears of a growth in the money supply and an increase in short-term demand pushed interest rates up across the board.

Chase Manhattan, the third biggest United States bank, led an increase in the prime rate, to which other rates are pegged to 17 per cent from 16.5 per cent, the highest since November. Other banks followed suit.

Mr James Buckley, an assistant secretary of state, is preparing to visit European capitals for talks on trade with the Soviet bloc. He will discuss the provision of future financial aid.

The legal wrangle in the takeover battle for Associated Communications Corporation is to continue, despite hints on Tuesday, from three appeal judges that the proper arena was the City, not the courts.

After a one-day adjournment, Mr Richard Sykes, QC, told the Court of Appeal yesterday that the directors of ACC and Mr Robert Holmes & Court, the Australian entrepreneur, had considered their position "carefully", but wished the case to continue.

To the appeal, Mr Gerald Ronson's Heron International, which has made a £46m offer for ACC, and a number of other shareholders are challenging a High Court judge's refusal to accept an earlier £36m bid by Mr Holmes & Court's Bell group.

At the weekend, Mr Holmes & Court announced that he would be prepared to match Heron's offer, Heron then replied by saying that it would raise its own bid.

However, details of the second Bell offer, which matched the Heron bid would be available to the court. The hearing continued.

EEC lends £26m to North

From Peter Norman, Brussels, Feb 17

The European investment bank (EIB) has granted loans worth £26m to help finance a mini copper factory near Leeds and sewerage and water supply schemes in the North of England.

The EIB, which is the European Community's bank for long term finance, is lending £6.1m to Systime at 11.5 per cent for eight years to help it construct a new factory to build micro-processor-based computer systems.

The factory which will be on the southern outskirts of Leeds will create 450 jobs, while Systime's expansion is expected to generate 350 jobs in the company's offices elsewhere.

Car men face EEC price inquiry

British motor manufacturers now face an investigation by the European Community over attempts to limit personal imports of cheaper new cars from the Continent.

EEC fair trading inspectors visited the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders headquarters in London earlier this month. They examined a large number of papers about the working of the SMMT and the structure of the British car market.

A week later the inspectors visited British Leyland offices in London and Birmingham, and took copies of documents they had previously requested. Both visits were "perfectly amicable", the SMMT said.

British Shipbuilders 'disappointed'

Storm rages over P & O order

By Peter Hill, Industrial Editor

Controversy continued yesterday over the decision by P. & O. to place an £80m cruise liner contract with a Finnish shipyard.

Amid a storm of protests from shipbuilding union leaders and Opposition MPs, British Shipbuilders admitted that it was not surprised to have lost the contract. Mr Robert Atkinson, its chairman, held talks with leaders of the Confederation of Shipbuilding and Engineering Unions on the issue yesterday.

A corporation spokesman said: "We have had very close contact with P. & O. and naturally are disappointed not to have won this valuable contract. We lodged a design and tender for the cruise liner for the most suitable yard in the corporation, Swan Hunter on Tyneside."

But Swan's existing order book, consisting of two through-deck

credits to the Soviet Union and Poland. Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, said at the weekend that restrictions on credits were the most promising method of tightening sanctions over the Polish situation.

Administration officials in Washington complained that an overnight monetary policy by the Federal Reserve Board in the United States central bank, has kept interest rates higher than necessary.

President Reagan put his views to Mr Paul Volcker, chairman of the Fed at a private meeting on Monday. The fact that it had taken place was not announced until today, an unusual delay.

The differences between the President and his advisers and the Fed on how tight a rein should be kept on the money supply have been played down, but were brought sharply into focus in reports to Congress last week.

The Fed in its six-monthly report said that high interest rates would persist at least until next year unless the budget deficit were brought down, while the President's economic advisers, in their annual report, said high interest rates would fall as inflation declined and would not block an economic recovery.

Mr Martens on his visit to Washington is not pushing

for any specific changes in United States economic policy, but he is stressing the worries in Europe that high interest rates would add to their own countries' problems.

The President's concerns about interest rates are reflected by his meeting with Mr Volcker, but he is unwilling to change any of the fundamentals of his budget strategy. Congress, however, is concerned to bring the deficits down and is looking at the 18 per cent increase in defence spending as its main target.

Discussions between the President and Mr Volcker were better carried on "outside the glare of public attention."

Mr Larry Speakes, a White House spokesman said, explaining the reason for the delay in announcing their meeting.

He minimised any differences between the two during their discussions and said "we are generally preaching from the same pulpit on our approach to the economy."

London trading the dollar closed slightly higher following the latest rise in prime rates. The United States currency, which had met light profit-taking earlier in the day, closed 47 points higher at DM 2.3982. The rise in prime rates had been largely discounted in the market.

Exxon, the world's largest oil company, has decided to take a major stake in British onshore oil exploration.

The first of its London-based subsidiary Esso yesterday concluded a complicated deal giving it a significant share in the onshore oil exploration interests on Candecca, the independent British oil company.

Candecca already has one of the largest portfolios of onshore exploration interests in the industry, with 25 production licences in England and Scotland and another 13 production licences awaiting approval from the Department of Energy.

It also has a stake in the Humble Grove oil discovery five miles outside Basingstoke and a gas discovery at Bletchingley in Surrey, although these two interests are not covered by the Esso deal.

The basis of the deal is that Esso will pay all of Candecca's exploration costs on its onshore prospects in return for the right to acquire half of Candecca's interest. The deal initially lasts until the end of June 1983 or until Esso has spent £5m, whichever is the earlier. After that, Esso has the option of extending the deal on a licence by licence basis until 1988.

News of the deal helped to send Candecca's shares up by 14p to 197p on the Unlisted Securities Market yesterday. The company, which was originally founded by the Canadian oil company Sceptre Resources, has licences covering about 4,500 square kilometres in southern England, Humberside, Yorkshire, the east Midlands and Scotland.

It is a partner in the gas discovery at Hatfield, near Doncaster, Yorkshire, where Texan firefighters had to call at Christmas to deal with gas explosion.

The significance of the deal is that it is the first time since onshore oil exploration started to pick up sharply three years ago that Esso has become involved. The company said last night that it was attracted by the low exploration and production costs of onshore activity, high tax regime was discouraging new activity.

Opposition spokesmen on industry Mr Stanley Orme, who has tabled a question to the Prime Minister about the placing of the contract, said



Knight: prominent role

Stock Exchange chief resigns

By Philip Robinson

Mr Robert Fell, the Stock Exchange's first chief executive, has announced his resignation after seven years. Although it is understood that he had a service contract until the end of 1983, the Exchange Council was told on Tuesday that there will be no compensation payment.

For the past four months Mr Fell had been on secondment as Commissioner for Securities and Commodities in Hongkong. His initial term was originally for six months, but the exchange said yesterday the Hongkong Government had asked him to continue in the job.

He will be replaced at the Stock Exchange by Mr Jeffrey Knight, aged 45, who has been acting chief executive in Mr Fell's absence and who played a prominent role as head of the Exchange's quotations department during stockbroking liquidations in the early 1970s.

Mr Knight has been deputy chief executive since 1976. He was educated at Bristol Cathedral School and St

Peter's College Oxford. He was articled to a City firm of chartered accountants, qualified in 1966, and joined the quotations department of the Stock Exchange in March 1967. He became head of the department in May 1973. He represented the United Kingdom at meetings with the EEC Commission and is a special adviser to the Department of Trade and the EEC. He has been a delegate to the working party no 2 of the financial markets committee of the organization for Economic Cooperation and Development and a member of the City Company law committee.

Mr Fell will relinquish his post officially on March 24. Sir Nicholas Goodison, chairman of the Stock Exchange, said in a statement that the Exchange had agreed to with regret to release him. Mr Fell, he said, had been a distinguished and successful chief executive. Mr Fell has worked with Sir Nicholas as chairman for almost all his career at the Exchange.

The NCB said last night that the bulk of the £380m will be accounted for by interest payments on money borrowed from the Government. Mr Moore himself said last week that the board's interest payments were likely to total some £360m this financial year, largely owing to the hefty cost of financing the coal industry's large stocks of unsold coal.

Sir Derek Ezra, the board's outgoing chairman, has frequently complained that his industry should be allowed to borrow from the private capital market instead of from the Government's National Loans Fund. That would allow the board to obtain more favourable financing terms, he claims.

Pay rises stay pegged at 11 per cent

By Frances Williams

Pay settlements have been running at a lower level than the official earnings figures would suggest. Separate statistics compiled by the Confederation of British Industry show that, between August, the start of the pay round, and January, the highest proportion of settlements fell between 4 and 6 per cent below the average level of settlements in the same period the year before.

The earnings figures are boosted by a rise in the number of hours worked. Average earnings rose by 9.9 per cent in the year to December, down from 11.3 per cent in November, the Department of Employment said yesterday.

But the 12-month figure for December was depressed by large amounts of back pay to local authority white-collar workers a year previously.

The department said that the underlying rate of increase in earnings remained at around 11 per cent, as it has done since August.

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Assets totalling over US\$1,500 million at 31st December 1981 prove our presence in the market; our determination and our strong group of shareholders assure the continued expansion of our activities in the future.

The many friends we have made during the first decade of our existence represent to us a reward for our efforts in channelling resources with the objective of improving the quality of life of the people. In the years to come, we look forward to continuing along the same path working side by side with them to achieve our common aims.

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BUSINESS NEWS/FOCUS AND COMMENT

PEOPLE

Can brokers match the bookies?

This evening it will be party time again for nearly 1,000 members of the Society of Investment Analysts and their guests in the Great Room of Grosvenor House. Aping Woodhouse, many brokers will be betting the guests that the invited speaker at the banquet will not mander on for more than a certain time.

Last year, members (who have to do their tic tac wac discreetly) waged that Mr A. R. W. Ratcliffe would go on and on, but this president of the Society of Actuaries suddenly sat down after 15.1 minutes. It is also to be hoped that members and their guests who regularly drink enough to float a battleship will not try to influence the result by behaving in an unseemly way.

After a visit to Yaounde in the Cameroons by three British-American Tobacco Executives, the hotel bill was made out to John Knorr, William John and John Morton.

They bear no relation, it is thought to a sixteenth century Scottish protesting misogynist, a Ballymena-born second row forward with great leadership qualities or a twentieth century English Cardinal who used a culinary implement as a fiscal tool.



Philip Banks: double act.

A double for A. T. Kearney

The appointment of Philip Banks (above) as chairman of the Management Consultants Association in succession to Martin Vandersteen of Arthur Andersen makes it a double this year for the consulting firm of A. T. Kearney.

Banks is managing director of the British end of Kearney, a worldwide firm with headquarters in Chicago. His predecessor as managing director was Walter Schroeder, who five years ago was also chairman of MCA. Schroeder is back in Chicago, but he is also chairman this year of MCA's American counterpart, the American Association of Consulting and Management Engineers.

Were it not Banks' elevation to Schroeder's job in London four years ago, Banks might have been Tony MP for Wrexham by now. He fought and lost that seat in the election before last, and stood down when he was offered the MDSHIP at Kearney.

At Banks has not left the field entirely. He remains on the Tory candidacy list both as MP and MEP.

Events can make the most innocuous advertising suddenly sound out of place. I hear that the Association of British Travel Agents, which is preparing a £300,000 television campaign to discourage late booking, will drop the line "Book your holiday now, before it disappears".

Peter Wainwright

NEW APPOINTMENTS

Mr W. A. George has been appointed president of Weetabix. Mr Richard George is to succeed his father as chairman of the company. He has also been appointed managing director, a position he will hold jointly with the new president.

Mr D. L. Mahoney has been appointed a deputy chairman of Sedgwick North America. Mr H. B. Poole has been appointed a director of Sedgwick Aviation. Mr C. J. Grey and Mr M. C. Howard have been appointed directors of Sedgwick Payne. Mr K. H. Dannenbaum has been appointed a director of Sedgwick Group Special Services. Mr S. J. Cox has been appointed a director of Sedgwick Forbes (Lloyd's Underwriting Agents).

Mr Norman Snow and Mr Michael Hill have been appointed to the board of Crittal Windows.

Mr N. D. Peers has joined the board of Cayzer. Cayzer is a banking services subsidiary of Cayzer, Gartmore, whose ultimate parent company is the British and Commonwealth Shipping Company.

Mr G. W. Mackworth-Young has been appointed a director of Charter Consolidated.

Peter Norman examines Germany's Neue Heimat affair

King Albert's opulence rocks the unions

The West German trade union movement is in crisis. But it is a crisis of capitalism in its crudest form that is wracking the organization that has always claimed a moral superiority in looking after the interests of more than 7 1/2 million people.

Almost the entire managing board of the Neue Heimat, the trade union owned property concern, has been fired or suspended following allegations in the weekly news magazine *Die Spiegel* that its chief executive and other leading officials have been using their positions to enrich themselves.

The scandal has put the trade union against the ropes at a time when they are already weakened by the rise in unemployment to two million. Since the disclosures there has been a wave of resignations from the movement.

Herr Heinz Oskar Vetter, the head of the German Trade Union Federation since 1969 is now, within a few months of retirement, facing the biggest challenge of his career. He and his colleagues at the head of the individual trade unions must be seen to root out corruption from the union's commercial empire.

The scandal broke over what is Europe's largest property developer 10 days ago when *Der Spiegel* charged that Herr Albert Vietor, the burly boss of Neue Heimat, had operated for years behind frontmen to develop property on his own account parallel to the company's housing developments and had, through trustees, been part owner of companies selling services to Neue Heimat tenants at excessive prices.

The charges were all the more damaging because the Neue Heimat, in its housing operation, is supposed to be a company serving the community rather than pursuing profit and is granted tax privileges to take account of this.

For 24 hours, the Neue Heimat was silent. Then its board issued a statement accusing *Der Spiegel* of "malice and falsehood", while at the same time admitting that unnamed board members were sleeping partners in a private property company called Wölbner-Hausbau. It added that such participations were "neither illegal nor unethical".

To justify this claim, the Neue Heimat statement referred to a long forgotten supervisory board decision dating 1967, which apparently gave approval to company officials undertaking private building projects through holdings in companies.

Curious and unsatisfactory as this statement may have appeared, the affair might have remained quietly for some time had not Herr Vietor, known to admirers and enemies alike as "King Albert". Decided to take the offensive.

He gave an interview to *Bild Zeitung's* daily last Wednesday which proved to be damning.

"My position is secure. I sleep well and my cigar tastes as good as ever," he told the interviewer, but he also disclosed that he owned "24 and a half apartments in Hamburg" and had shares in 217 flats in Berlin.

Herr Vietor said that he carried out business on the side to reduce his tax burden. "The tax man would have 50 per cent of my salary" (reported to be DM 524,000 or around £119,000), "like any one else I try to save on taxes. Even so I pay more than 100,000 marks a year and if there was a way to save still more legally I would do it", he said.

Herr Vietor was asked whether the supervisory board of the Neue Heimat, which is headed by Herr Vetter, knew of his private business affairs. "Of course" came the answer, "and of those of my colleagues".

But why, the reporter persisted, was everything done through front men. "It was wanted that way", said Herr Vietor.

Among *Bild Zeitung's* millions of readers that day was Herr Vetter. Later furious at having himself and the labour movement sided in Herr Vietor's excuses, he summoned "King Albert" to a special meeting of the trade union federation board in the Neue Heimat's Hamburg headquarters.

Herr Vietor arrived in his chauffeur-driven prussian blue Mercedes looking confident. For four hours later he left red-faced and flustered, talking to nobody. It was left to Herr Vetter to appear before the television cameras, visibly strained, to announce that Herr Vietor and two of his colleagues had been suspended.

Three days later, they were fired and three other board members suspended. Only one of the original Neue Heimat board, Herr Erich Frister, is allowed into his office at present. Herr Vetter promising "an investigation without mercy" into the affair, and pledging to "cut out the rot", lost no time in appointing a new chief executive.

He is Dr Dieter Hoffmann, highly respected as one of the two chief executives of the trade union-owned Bank fuer Gemeinwirtschaft. He was dispatched from Albert said, but the company back on its feet.

The Neue Heimat affair is highly damaging to the West German trade union movement for a number of reasons.

West Germany is perhaps as classless a nation as one can find in Western Europe. But there is a big and growing distinction between those who own property and those who live in rented accommodation.

As middle class aspirations have concentrated on home ownership over the past war years, that part of society which lives in rented accommodation has begun to appear as a late 20th century proletariat.

Accordingly the cost availability and cost of rented houses has become as sensitive an issue as the availability and cost of bread was 120 years ago.

It was to provide cheap and reasonable housing for the working classes that the Neue Heimat was set up in the 1920s.

The Neue Heimat has never been a harbinger of architectural good taste, nor could it always claim trouble-free relations with its tenants.

But it grew to be an important part of the postwar German economy. Its housing operation, which accounts for 80 per cent of its turnover, administers almost 420,000 dwellings. Its other building interests — grouped round the Neue Heimat Städtebau and operated on commercial rather than community service principles — has built and owns around 1,000 properties ranging from hospitals, to congress centres, through local government offices to luxury hotels in Berlin and Monte Carlo.

This vast conglomerate with 60 subsidiary companies on West Germany and holdings in more than 60 companies abroad, was the biggest of the trade union owned companies. These companies, which include a bank and an insurance group, have always claimed to be something apart from capitalism.

The sheer insensitivity of Herr Vietor in boasting that he had manipulated his tax bill downwards to around one fifth of his official income, while accumulating a massive personal fortune in property, has presented West Germans with their unacceptable face of capitalism.

The Vietor affair has also raised questions as to the role of the trade unionists who sat on the Neue Heimat supervisory board.

"King" Albert lived like one. Apart from his apartments he owns a sumptuous villa near Ascona in the Swiss canton of Ticino, as well as a large house and grounds in the Hamburg suburbs.

Over the years of affluence the upper echelons of the trade union movement in West Germany have drifted away from their power base.

It remains to be seen what impact the Neue Heimat affair has on trade union politics in the future. The second generation of post war trade union leaders is about to leave the stage. Herr Vetter goes in May. Powerful men like Herr Eugen Loderer of I. G. Metall, Herr Karl Hauenschild of I. G. Chemie and Herr Rudolf Sperner of the building workers union I. G. Bau are in their last terms of office.

A new ambitious generation is in the wings. Some of them like Herr Franz Steinkuehler, the metal workers leader in Stuttgart, have been building up their power on the strength of much more militant policies.

What is worrying some government officials in Bonn, is that the Neue Heimat affair could increase the pressure that already exists on the present generation of union leaders to demonstrate that they really have the workers interests at heart.



The allegations against Herr Albert Vietor (King Albert) were first carried in West Germany's weekly news magazine *Der Spiegel*. Herr Vietor subsequently arrived at a special union meeting to discuss the allegations in his chauffeur driven prussian blue Mercedes

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The fact that drinks and cigarettes were hit hard last time might make the Chancellor go easy on the tax cuts help individuals; the third option, cutting the National Insurance Surcharge, helps companies, especially those which are big employers of labour.

In some ways the case for this year is weaker than on previous occasions. Company profits are starting to rise and personal living standards are falling because of low pay settlements. It may be pushing the Government's luck too far to try to take this process further by reducing the tax on companies.

Tax changes are only part of the story in a modern Budget. It has also become the occasion on which monetary policy is updated and there is bound to be a great deal of detail about the new form that the monetary strategy will take. But the aim will be to emphasise continuity, not changes.

At the heart of the "steady as she goes" view is the feeling that the economy is at last coming right, albeit very slowly. The latest depressing figures for output at the end of last year, show just how fragile the recovery is, and suggestions in the past few weeks of a drop in demand are even more worrying.

But on balance the Chancellor thinks that things are now moving in his favour. The optimism is backed up by scepticism about how much can be done anyway. Even a £5 billion reduction would do little to reduce unemployment and inflation remains high. So the Government is to some extent boxed in.

All this could change if doubts about recovery turn into a renewed downturn later in the year. I that happens the pressure will grow on the Chancellor to reflate, possibly by using his powers to cut VAT between budgets, to give an autumn boost to the economy.

Business Editor

Decision time at Leyland

European heavy truck makers must be viewing the latest crisis at Leyland, BL's commercial vehicle arm, with mixed feelings this week. If the group goes to the wall, a strong possibility if strike votes today and tomorrow go against the company, the lucrative though currently depressed British market will be thrown into turmoil. At the same time there could be opportunities for significant expansion by importers.

The seven-man board of BL will discuss on Friday the results of the mass meetings at Leyland in Lancashire and Bathgate in West Lothian and if the stoppage continues, directors will decide whether to close the operation.

Liquidation has not yet been mentioned in this latest state of trouble at BL, but union officials are mindful of the vulnerability of the traditionally peaceful truck and bus activities.

Leyland losses were running at £2m a week last year. Because of the month-old strike over planned redundancies and streamlining, almost £30m in cash has been drained out of the business in January, and the figure is now conservatively estimated to have risen to £50m.

And it appears that BL could call in a receiver for the Leyland operation without affecting the car side. The 1982 corporate plan, approved by the Government, disclosed that from January 1, the company was split into four separate legal entities.

BL directors must, however, consider very seriously the impact that a closure decision would have not only on towns like Leyland but also on British presence in the entire European truck market.

Ford, which is investing £1,000m over the next five years in its United Kingdom truck programme, is unlikely to want extra capacity and the restructuring efforts of Bedford and Dodge do not allow for the purchase of big additional factories.

Sadly, should the Leyland plants be put on the market, the most likely takers would be foreign. Volvo of Sweden, which already has a Scottish operation, could well consider buying the Bathgate or Albion facilities. And the Japanese, always looking for a stepping stone into Europe, could be interested.

The decision facing Leyland's workers, understandably bitter over rejection of their expansionist alternative strategy, is whether to challenge the warning of Mr David Andrews, BL's executive deputy chairman, that a vote to continue the strike "will put us out of business within days".

Pay round

Encouraging

The howls of outrage from the Civil Service unions at the Government's proposals to scale pay increases to market conditions were predictable, but it looks as though the unions will be doing more barking than biting this time.

It is noteworthy that there has been no threat of strike action after last year's damaging dispute, significantly failed to extract much by way of concessions from a determined Government.

It appears on the cards, then, that the government may get away with relatively little damage to its Civil Service pay limit of an overall 4 per cent. In the private sector, too, things seem to be going Mrs Thatcher's way.

The CBI's pay databank shows that settlements in manufacturing in the present pay round are between 4 and 6 per cent, with the rest mostly between 7 and 9 per cent. Settlements in service industries show a similar pattern.

This is higher than ministers' more hopeful exhortations some months ago which implied that the Government was looking for settlements around 4 per cent. But the Government is unlikely to be dissatisfied with the outcome so far, especially as this has been achieved with an unusually small crop of strikes.

Though 90 per cent of settlements have still to be concluded in the 1981-82 pay round which began last August, the traditional pacesetters — the miners and waterworkers in the public sector, the car workers in the private sector — have settled without too much damage to overall pay targets.

Fears are already building up for the next round, however, with company profits up by perhaps 20 to 25 per cent (though from low levels) and the pace of redundancy slowing, will workers stand for another year of falling real incomes?

Doubtless this is something the Chancellor will bear in mind when framing this year's Budget.

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- Record half year profit £19.6m — up 20%
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	Half-Year to 31 Dec 1981 Unaudited	Half-Year to 31 Dec 1980 Unaudited	Year to 30 June 1981
Profit before interest and tax	£m 37.2	£m 31.0	£m 16.5
Group profit before tax	19.6	16.2	41.2
Group profit after tax	12.7	9.2	24.2
Earnings per £1 ordinary share	16.0p	10.9p	29.7p
Interim dividend per share	11.0p	11.0p	22.0p

Copies of the full Interim Report can be obtained from the Secretary, Dalgety plc, 19 Hanover Square, London W1R 9DA.

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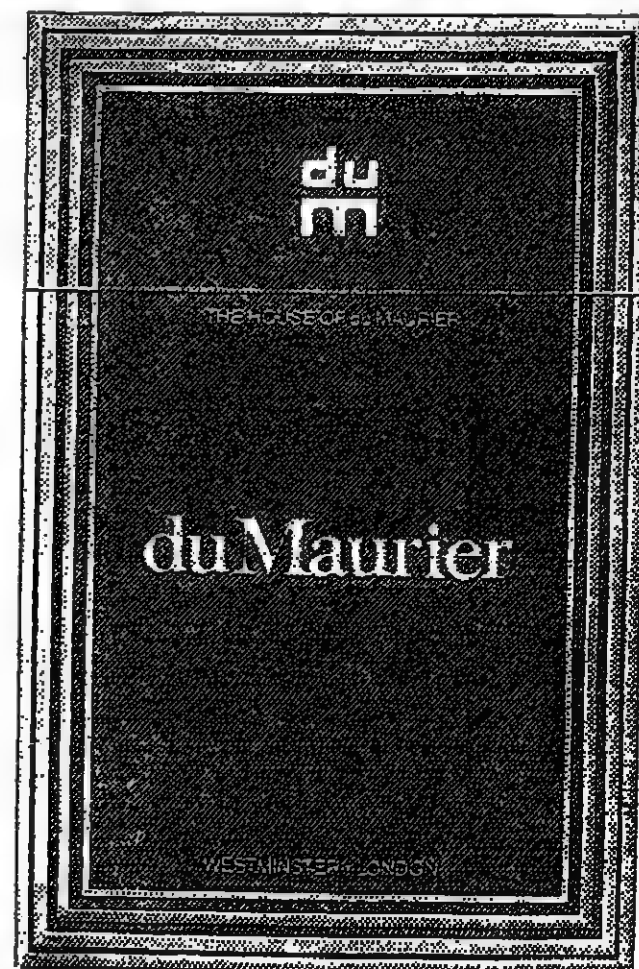
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Cricket

Ranatunge makes mark on Sri Lanka's great day

From Richard Streeton
Colombo, Feb 17

Sri Lanka made a good recovery from a poor start in their inaugural Test match here today. England had been reeling at 34 for four but by the close Sri Lanka were 183 for eight. Sri Lanka might not win this game but a historic occasion is not going to be an embarrassment.

An innings of 54 by the young left hander Ranatunge, whose composure and strokeplay came close to sending onlookers into raptures, together with a dour and efficient 64 not out from Madugalle, was responsible for ensuring that England did not have things their own way. Willis and Botham, from the same end, both took wickets in successive overs in the morning period. Underwood later obtained turn and lift as he claimed four wickets on a pitch whose testing properties must be in doubt.

As feared in this age of radio and television, quite apart from economic factors, there were only some 10,000 people present in the ground to watch the opening day, although the listening and viewing figures would be significant for some presentations, national anthems and release of multi-coloured balloons, a fascinating day's play ensued. Madugalle, who showed his prowess last week at Kandy with a disciplined hundred and is clearly going to be an important figure for his country in the years ahead. Only 15 other players, 11 of them from India or Pakistan, have played in a Test match at a younger age than Ranatunge at 18 years and he made an indelible mark on the day's events.

The honour of scoring Sri Lanka's first run in Test cricket went to Waranapala, their captain, who steered Willis's fifth ball through the slips for a single. Waranapala surprised onlookers by choosing to bat. Fletcher's intention, if he won the toss, was to put Sri Lanka in. The pitch was still damp from its preparation and, even after it dried out, there was always some bounce to be gained, not least by Willis and later by Underwood. England, as expected, left out Gaining; the all-rounder Ranatunge was the unlucky Sri Lankan.

Sri Lanka's poor start mostly owed as much to their own mistakes as it did to either the England bowlers or the vagaries of the pitch. Waranapala received an awkward ball from Willis that lifted and it lobbed off his glove to fifth slip. Dias hooked a shade early on the slow turn and Cook at forward short leg held a smart catch with an outstretched right hand.

On Sunday, Wettimuny looked a well-organized defensive player for 50 minutes before he

changed character and paid the penalty, misreading a lifting ball from Botham. Mendis played the first authentic stroke of the innings with a fierce straight drive for four against Allott, but when he shuffled across his stumps against Botham, he left Sri Lanka 54 for four from 19 overs.

The England players have already decided that Ranatunge is suspect outside his off stump and he was immediately confronted by an extraordinary three slips and three gullies against Allott and by three slips, a gully and a point against Botham. He looked utterly at ease, though, from the start of the day's last ball. Madugalle took runs here and there and by the end had struggled for almost four hours with a six and three fours.

In the first hour of the afternoon Ranatunge invoked comparisons with a young Neil Harvey in the 1948 series between England and Australia. He drove freely on both sides of the wicket, pulled anything short and ran like a hare between the wickets. His confidence was extraordinary for someone playing only his second first-class match.

Twice Ranatunge hit Allott for 10 in an over. When Willis rapped him left hand, he played the next ball off his hip and then hooked a four and drove three past extra cover. Madugalle was content to be more subdued, but when Embury bowled, he lifted him over square leg for six with effortless timing.

By tea Sri Lanka were 130 for four with Ranatunge's unbeaten 54, including seven fours, but he shouldered arms to Underwood in the first over afterwards and had his first stump hit. He is quite clearly destined to be one of the game's finest ornaments.

By now Underwood had settled into a nagging spell and with some help from the pitch went on to take four for 18 in 14.1 overs. Somachandra de Silva was held at mid wicket, flicking the ball off his legs; de Mel was caught at silly point; and Kaluperuma fell to a short leg catch by Cook from the day's last ball. Madugalle took runs here and there and by the end had struggled for almost four hours with a six and three fours.

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Taking on the job of 'househusband'

As economic change alters the conventional structures of the home, Michel Syett forces an expanding role for the man of the house.

"I hate the word 'househusband'. I much prefer the term 'running the house'. The assumptions that most men make about washing, cleaning and the best way to remove them is to try it for yourself."

In 1981, David Lewis left his job as a research fellow at Herford Polytechnic. His wife, Miriam, was able to find work as a part-time teacher, and David decided to take on the role of 'househusband'. As such, he is responsible for the running of the household. He has two children, Tom and Kathie, and a dog, Sam. Now 33, and working nine hours a week as a counsellor for the Youth Opportunities Programme, he divides the housework equally between himself and his wife.

"We share all the jobs around the house," he said. "The gardening, cooking, dusting and polishing we do jointly, and the only things Miriam does which I don't do are sewing and ironing. Although I am learning to knit."

Mr Lewis is not alone in his decision. Economic change has had a marked effect on the way men view their role in the home. The increased willingness of women to take on part-time, or full-time work, the growing number of redundancies in male-oriented industries and the development of flexible working hours by many employers—all these factors are likely to persuade many people to reassess the social roles of their family life.

Many 'househusbands' have found the reality of taking on some of their wives' responsibilities far more demanding than they might have imagined. Thirty-four-year-old Malcolm Paine has filled the role in his Mansfield home for more than four years, after leaving his job as a teacher in a large comprehensive school, discovering that there are financial as well as social advantages to the new domestic arrangement.

"Our financial situation was very much better than we had thought possible. No more higher-rate tax, no expenditure on my part on anything much other than jeans and no clothing bills for me. In addition, since I am able to shop during the week wherever I wish, there are considerable savings on food bills. It is no longer a traumatic

What the secretary is up to

"The secretary, male or female, will soon be an extinct species." True or false? Paul Andersen reports.

The work of secretaries is widely misunderstood and undervalued. A secretary is often seen as no more than a shorthand/audio typist who works for an individual—a 'soft' promotion from the typing pool where one works for all comers.

In reality the professional secretary, apart from being a proficient shorthand/audio typist, also needs to be a management assistant, organiser, researcher, administrator and often much more. His or her work is increasingly moving away from a clerical to an administrative and management role.

Shorthand and audio typists actually perform a wide range of specific tasks under close supervision, offering little scope for using their discretion. Secretaries, apart from handling routine dictation, typing and filing, will have a wide range of additional responsibilities. Typically, they may deal with routine correspondence on their own initiative; draft important letters and memoranda from brief guidelines; organise the work schedule; organise and minute meetings; obtain information from libraries and other reference sources; handle travel and hotel bookings; receive and entertain expected visitors; and handle unexpected and unwelcome callers; run the manager's office during his or her absence; which may include some supervision of staff; and buy office supplies and equipment.

Electronic typewriters with a memory, word-processors and similar equipment will substantially reduce the amount of repetitive typing which needs to be done in many

offices. This will certainly reduce the demand for some secretaries, in such offices as insurance companies, solicitors, insurance offices and solicitors. However, this is unlikely to have a significant impact on the overall demand for secretaries. For many years, even throughout the present recession, demand has outstripped supply.

The introduction of new office technology is likely to affect secretaries in three ways: they will have less routine and repetitive typing work; this will free them for more extensive and interesting responsibilities; and they will have to acquire new knowledge and skills. The emphasis will be much more on their role as 'personal assistants' to managers for whom they work.

What qualifications, aptitudes and skills are required for a secretarial career? First they need a good basic education. This must include an excellent knowledge of the English language, including immaculate grammar and spelling. Secretaries must be able to express themselves clearly and accurately, both orally and in writing. They must also be numerate—able to handle simple calculations with accuracy.

Although employers rarely specify academic qualifications, many more concerned with relevant training and experience, O-level English language and mathematics should be seen as the absolute minimum. It may be noted that an increasing proportion of secretaries

now have degrees, and this trend is likely to continue as the secretarial role develops.

Personal qualities required are intelligence and common sense, combined with a good general knowledge; the ability to organise and carry out work methodically and with minimal supervision; an equitable temperament; tact, discretion, maturity and reliability; a willingness to work long hours on demand; and good personal grooming and social skills.

Basic skills are proficiency in shorthand and typing, with particular emphasis on accuracy and on good layout and presentation; and a thorough knowledge and experience of office equipment, systems and routines. These skills are acquired, and few professional secretaries are appointed before the age of 25.

The best possible preparatory training is provided by a good secretarial college. Courses should be compared when choosing a college, ensuring that they are comprehensive and include training on the new systems. This training should be followed by general office experience.

What of the rewards? The work is interesting, demanding and well paid. Experienced secretaries earn between £5,000 and £8,000 in central London (£1,250 to £1,500 less elsewhere). Opportunities for advancement into management, if desired, are constantly improving. Recommended reading: *The Complete Desk Book* by Sally Feldman (Hamlyn, £4.95).

Director

MRC Dental Unit

The Honorary Director of the Medical Research Council's Dental Unit at Bristol, Professor A. I. Darling, will retire in July of this year and the Council now seeks a successor to take up the appointment as soon afterwards as may conveniently be arranged.

The Unit currently has 16 staff with excellent modern accommodation and facilities in the Bristol University Dental School. The future of the research and the research programmes of the Unit will be for discussion with whoever is appointed. The possibility is not excluded of setting up a new unit in Bristol or elsewhere in the country which would be more appropriate to a new Director's interests.

It is not essential for applicants either to have a dental qualification or to have worked previously in the field of dental research, but the successful candidate will be a person of high scientific standing who can show evidence of ability to direct a research team. The salary will be within the Council's Special Appointments grade, which equates with the universities' professional scale. The Council would seek to negotiate for the successful candidate an appropriate honorary university appointment.

Further particulars may be obtained from Dr Enid Barnett, Medical Research Council Headquarters, 20 Port Crescent, London W14 4AL (Telephone: 01-836 5422 Ext 348).

Applications should include a detailed curriculum vitae and list of publications, together with outline of research interests. The closing date for applications, which should be addressed to the Secretary of the Council is 2 April 1982.

Chair in Modern Languages

Applications are invited for the above post becoming vacant on the retirement of Professor F. M. Willis. The successful candidate will be responsible for the teaching of French and Italian in the School of Languages, University of Bradford. Further particulars, including conditions of service and salary, may be obtained from the Registrar and Secretary, University of Bradford, Bradford, West Yorkshire, BD9 4JY. Closing date for receipt of applications is 12 March 1982.

Which Career Suits Best?

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